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INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY

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released by
Gyani Zail Singh
President of India
at Rashtrapati Bhavan
on March 4, 1983

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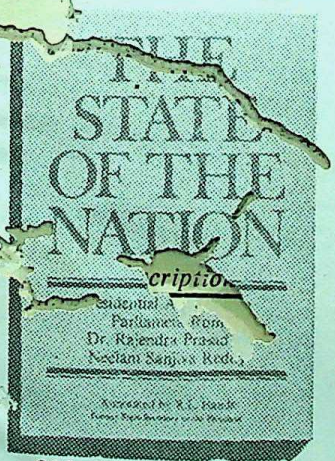
Chairman,
Sterling Publishers
Private Limited,
Gyani Zail Singh,
President of India and
Shri R.L. Handa,
the author of the book.



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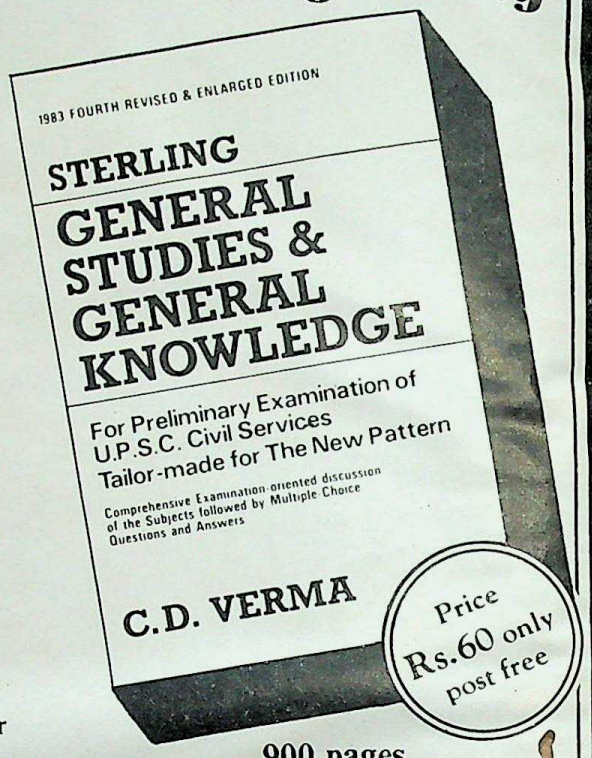

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Iowa State Stresses Author Involvement

Marilyn Sealine

The Iowa State University Press manuscript committee is the primary advisory board. The committee's input usually comes after a manuscript has survived the reviews of readers apart from those on the committee. On occasion, members of the committee have been instrumental in getting manuscripts, but generally their role is to determine the quality of manuscripts they review and reject or accept them for inclusion on the list.

The scholarly community is contacted by press scouts in personal visits to faculty in their offices and at various meetings attended by the scouts. These personal visits are strongly supplemented and enhanced by telephone contacts to promising faculty authors and letter-writing efforts to faculties of universities not otherwise reached, as well as to reviewers of books in the areas of concentration of the press.

Our list constantly adapts to changing trends in academe by publishing experimental texts in our fields of emphasis, by investigating new kinds of texts, by adopting the new technologies, where possible, and by entering into areas of publishing that are new to us.

Many authors believe that all university presses either do or should have the same set of conditions for considering manuscripts. Therefore, we are ever in an educational programme explaining why our list is different, and why their book does not fit into our publishing programme. (If the University of Illinois Press is able to publish a book that they see as a "trade" book, why can't we?) This causes comment from us about our relationship with the IRS, our non-funding relationship with our parent institution, and our awareness and excellence in publishing the books that we know about and have handled successfully versus trying to get into the misty fields of "trade" publishing.

Proofreading

We are moving toward increasing author involvement in proofreading duties on several fronts. We have our own printing plant, so of necessity we have to proofread the output of our plant. However, whenever we have books composed on the outside, we frequently ask authors to handle the proofreading themselves. We also expect authors of books composed by or under their own direction to accept the proofreading responsibility as well.

Permissions

We have always required authors to handle permissions and permission fees. Only occasionally will we become involved, when the author lacks the resources/time to handle this part of publishing, and we will then charge costs to the author's royalty and even in some cases, as a last resort, to production costs.

Royalties

On new books with a perceived market potential of less than 2,500 copies we routinely try to persuade authors to accept no royalties on first printings; alternately, a one-time payment in lieu of royalties is acceptable. If the author provides composition, however, some royalty is frequently provided. *For the past four years, all new royalty contracts have been based on net income rather than list price.*

Composition

Thus far author composition has come to us as camera-ready copy, reflecting the kind of compositional equipment available to the author.

The amount of such author-provided composition varies widely from year to year. In a recent year it accounted for about 33 per cent of titles published during that year. We have eight author-composed titles scheduled for publication in 1983.

This past summer we upgraded our composition equipment with the acquisition of Compugraphic MCS. This will give us the potential to accept input from a wide variety of word processing equipment. We

[*Courtesy: The Exchange*, Journal of Association of American University Press]

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hope in the future to substantially increase author involvement in supplying compositional input for this new equipment.

Authors view such computer-generated manuscripts as a very real way to produce their own books in the coming years and are increasingly ready to accept the process. They do not see electronic publishing carrying with it the "doomed future" of books.

Marketing

We actively invite authors' input into our marketing programme and authors often participate in marketing their books.

After manuscripts are accepted for publication and contracts are signed, we contact the authors and ask them to complete Author Information Forms. The form asks questions about the authors, the books and markets as perceived by the author. This information is very valuable in our development of marketing plans. Authors are also contacted just before their books are published for any last-minute ideas that developed during the production process.

If possible, authors are invited to the press for meetings to discuss various aspects of their books. This is another excellent time to get ideas from the authors to help in our marketing efforts.

With our exhibit programme, we often send display copies and promotional brochures along with authors to meetings and conferences. This is an excellent opportunity to promote books. If the budget allows and the need exists, we will often provide some financial help to authors who wish to attend meetings that can be used as an opportunity to promote our books. With our trade titles, more financial support for author appearances is often necessary.

Authors are often asked to provide lists of people who would be good prospects for our direct mail programme. These people are usually key contacts who will aid in the success of the book. Depending on how select the list is, we will send a special letter and a complimentary copy, particularly if we feel the person is a good adoption prospect. Sometimes, we'll even telephone the person.

Generally, we believe that the more we can involve authors in the promotion of their books, the better the books will sell. However, we realize that many ideas from authors are unworkable, and we make it clear to them that we reserve the right to use or not to use their ideas. Most authors understand this and appreciate our invitation for their ideas.

Gyani Zail Singh, President of India, releases the book

"The State of the Nation",

at Rashtrapati Bhavan

Releasing the book—*The State of the Nation*—annotated by Shri R.L. Handa and published by Sterling Publishers, the President Gyani Zail Singh said he had been through some collections of Presidential speeches but it was for the first time that a collection of addresses delivered by respective Presidents to joint sessions of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha at the start of the budget sessions had been brought out. He congratulated the author and the publishers on this venture. The President said he would make a strong recommendation to the Ministry of Education to strengthen the library movement and provide ample funds for the purchase of books. The President felicitated Shri Handa who, he said, even after several years of retirement was devoting his time to constructive writing. He hoped that the book would prove highly useful to different sections of readers, particularly those engaged in the study of national developments, in India since independence, in all its aspects.

Shri R.L. Handa in his speech at the function said: "The basic idea of compiling these speeches and annotating them was to provide to writers and scholars an authentic source of information about the country's many-faceted developments and plans as reflected in governmental announcements. This material would furnish a reliable background to the Government's thinking and actual policies relating to economic, social and political developments of the Indian Republic." The author has tried to follow in this work the British and American practice. In both of these countries such collections of inaugural speeches by respective Heads of States have ever been looked upon as the most authentic source of official policies with regard to the Government's intentions, achievements and general performance. Shir Handa said that he hoped that this collection would serve a similar purpose as far as our country is concerned.

Mr O.P. Ghai, Chairman, Sterling Publishers in his speech, recalled the President's role in the freedom struggle of our country. He said that the President's life was a source of inspiration to the country. He brought to the President's notice the problems of the publishing industry. Mr Ghai said it was imperative to take up the liquidation of mass illiteracy in a big way. In order to achieve this aim, the problems of the publishing industry had to occupy first priority. He also stressed the need for encouraging the reading habit amongst people.

Mr S.K. Ghai, Managing Director, Sterling Publishers, in his short speech gave a vote of thanks and spoke about Sterling Publisher's commitment in producing first-rate books of Indian writers and publishing them in India and the world over.

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Co-Operation Among Developing Countries

WIPO PERMANENT COMMITTEE MEET IN NEW DELHI

A Special Session of the WIPO Permanent Committee for Development Cooperation relating to Copyright was held in New Delhi, from January 25 to January 29. It was inaugurated by Mrs Sheila Kaul, Minister of State for Education and Culture. Representatives from 33 countries, observers from 9 and many international organisations participated. The Indian delegation was led by Dr Kapila Vatsyayan, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Education and Culture. From WIPO she was elected the Chairman of the Conference. The Indian delegation included Shri D.N. Malhotra, Shri Narendra Kumar, Justice G.D. Khosla, representing the Authors Guild, and Mr. A. V. Luther, Secretary General, Indian Phonographic Industry. Among the other participants from India were:

1. Mr. S. Ramaiah, Ministry of Law.

2. Mr. V.K. Pandit, Ministry of Education.

3. Mr. J.K. Bhattacharya, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

4. Miss Savitri Kunadi, Ministry of External Affairs.

5. Dr. (Miss) Kala Thairani, Registrar, Copyright, Ministry of Education.

6. Mr. K.H. Patel, Deputy Director (UNE), Ministry of External Affairs.

7. Mr. O.P. Ghai, Chairman, Sterling Publishers (P) Ltd. Federation of Indian Publishers, New Delhi.

8. Mr. M.B. Srinivasan, Chairman, Indian Performing Right Society Ltd., New Delhi

Speech of Shri D.N. Malhotra,* at the meet:

The resolution passed by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its seventh *special session in September 1975 was of historical importance* in so far as for the first time it called upon the U.N. systems and developed nations to offer assistance to developing countries in enlarging and strengthening their mutual cooperation at all levels—sub-regional, and international.

The report of WIPO as given in paper CP/DA/V/5 and as enunciated so capably by Mr. Shahid Ali Khan that WIPO has taken a number of measures in this direction, during 1981-82 to promote and support cooperation among developing countries. They have taken measures to advise and give assistance to regional institutions, harmonisation of copyright legislation within a group of developing countries, holding regional seminars and meetings which have given opportunities for an exchange of views and experiences among participants of developing countries. This has really helped in the promotion of cooperation among developing countries. The first and foremost advantage has been that now having come together in these meetings, they know one another and can identify similar experts in other developing countries of their own region and even on an inter-regional basis.

This is a commendable work done by WIPO and developing countries have a deep sense of appreciation and thankfulness to WIPO for this primary task which paves the way for further cooperation on a continuing basis among developing countries.

We note with satisfaction that such meetings were organised in RWANDA and Buenos Aires in 1982 and similar ones are going to be organised in 1983 in Asian and African countries. Mention has been made of two General Introductory Courses on Copyright organised in London in 1981 and in Budapest in 1982 for the copyright officials from developing countries. I have been associated with these courses and I have heard later from the trainees that they benefited a lot from these courses. Some of the trainees came to India and others have gone to a number of developing countries. This has provided them with opportunities for exchange of views and experiences with their counterparts in other developing countries.

In the report, we find another offer from WIPO to give expert advice to groups of authors, performers, composers and artists in developing countries who wish to form among them associations or societies on regional or sub-regional level, to protect their interests. Though it has been said that it is more particularly for collection of fees, etc., but the very formation of such associations can help in generating cooperation among developing countries.

We do not know whether WIPO has actually been able to help in the formation of any such regional association or societies. But it is a good idea. We would like to add

*Managing Director, Hind Pocket Books (P) Ltd., New Delhi

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to this that such assistance should be offered to groups of publishers also, as it is the publishers of books and producers of phonograms who play a very vital role in the upholding of and protecting of copyright than even the authors and composers. For instance, an Asian Publishers or African or Latin American or an Afro-Asian Publishers Association could be envisaged which could lead to a more meaningful cooperation on an inter-regional basis. Such help from WIPO would be greatly appreciated.

As a matter of fact, if one comes to think of the terms 'developed' and 'developing' countries, one finds that on a closer examination, these are only relative terms. One country from a developing region may be assessed as a developing one in comparison with the advanced countries of Europe but in its comparison with other countries of the developing region, it may be a developed country. Or even within a country like India, there are highly advanced states which if put together will compare and compete equally with any advanced and highly industrialised nation of the world. But it has other areas which are at the stage of less developed countries. In Asia as a whole, there are more developed and less developed or developing countries. This clearly presents a situation wherein developing regions can progress a lot by cooperation between different countries within the area.

Due to a basic similarity of circumstances, developing countries can learn much more from one another than by going to far-off advanced countries wherein circumstances and the conditions prevailing are sometimes completely alien for trainees to grasp the maximum benefit from their training programmes.

In this context, if similar courses as organised in London and Budapest were organised in Singapore, New Delhi or Manila, the cost will be much less and the trainees will find more familiar situations than they find in Europe. One or two experts could be invited from Europe; but quite a number of experts can be found in the developing world who can do the job as well. Moreover, in such courses, larger number of trainees can be accommodated as the travel expenses within the areas will be much less.

In this context, it is suggested that some centres in every region be identified where the facilities and expertise are sufficiently available and those centres be treated as Regional Training Centres for copyright and WIPO should extend to these centres all co-operation, support and recognition.

Only last year, in New Delhi, a very compact training course on copyright was organised by the Federation of Indian Publishers in which a large number of publishers, authors, editors, government officials and others participated. Lectures were given by copyright experts, publishers, lawyers and the then President of the Authors' Guild Justice G.D. Khosla. Every one thought that it was a very successful course. The Ministry of Education, Government of India, gave some financial assistance and the Secretary, Ministry of Education, inaugurated the course.

But this training course and others which are organised here by the Federation of Indian Publishers from time to time are all on an *ad hoc* basis. We do not have the infrastructure to carry on such programmes on a regular basis. If WIPO could give us cooperation in building an infrastructure for our copyright training programmes, we would extend these courses to participants from other developing countries in Asia and even from elsewhere if they could come. Our problems and our approach to tackle them are similar as in other developing countries. What we talk rings a familiar bell to them.

I remember, once in one of the international seminars when the delegate from Brazil was enunciating the problems of publishing prevailing in his country, I found that a lot of it was applicable to India. So, even inter-regional seminars and training courses organised in developing countries would be extremely useful; and for such cooperation WIPO has to play an increasingly positive role. I can assure you, Sir, that there will not be dearth of experts for such programmes in the developing world.

We support these activities of WIPO and are willing to cooperate fully in carrying out specific measures to promote cooperation between developing countries. May we suggest that a small working group be formed to formulate specific practical measures to achieve these objectives?

We, in India, have a mixed economy; and in book-publishing, the public sector, along with the Private Sector, is playing a significant role in providing the book-needs for our masses. Our Federation of Indian Publishers works in close liaison with the Ministry of Education and the Registrar of Copyright. We are hopeful that the new Copyright Bill which is before the Indian Parliament will be made into an instrument of helping creativity and a strong indigenous publishing industry.

We have, fortunately, in the Director-General, Dr Bogsch, a person of high eminence and having a deep understanding of the problems of developing countries and I had the privilege to work with him as Chairman of the Joint Copyright Consultative Committee of WIPO and UNESCO. With Mr Shahid Ali Khan as Director of Developing Countries Division and Mr Masoye as Director, Public Information and Copyright, at the helm of affairs, we are confident that with their new elightened policies, developing countries will be able to play their part in the dissemination of copyright and promotion of intellectual creativity in an excellent manner.

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Publication of Reference Books in India

*A.R. Sethi**

Reference Book

A reference book is a book 'for consultation only'. It is a concise yet comprehensive source of information which by its arrangement is easy and expeditious to consult.

Encyclopaedias, dictionaries—biographical, geographical, subject and lingual—bibliographies and indexes, directories and guides, yearbooks and handbooks, are some of the types of reference books, though any book written for the purpose of reference only may be termed a reference book.

Compilation of a reference book requires knowledge of facts, skill of organising these facts and the ability to present them, of a higher order than required for writing most of the general books. Reliability of information is its cornerstone, while easy accessibility to information is its virtue.

More often than not, a reference book is compiled by a team rather than by an individual; also the cost, both in terms of labour and money involved in doing a reference book, is greater than that in writing a general book. However, the utility of the information contained in the reference book goes on diminishing with the passage of time unless its contents are kept updated.

A reference book may be compiled/sponsored either by an official/semi-official agency, by a commercial institution or by an individual.

Indian Scene

The tradition of preparing indexes and bibliographies (anukramanika) in India is quite old, and the present generation of librarians too seems to be smitten by the bibliographic bug. However, compilation of other types of reference sources has not yet started on a big scale. The characteristics of the reference books published in India may be summed up as follows:

(*i*) *Restricted coverage*: Whereas many of the reference books published in USA, UK and other Western countries are world-wide in their contents coverage, most of the Indian reference books restrict themselves to the post-Partition boundaries, thereby delimiting the market of the publication.

(*ii*) *Authenticity is suspect*: It is not always the best brains that go into compiling the reference books in India. Thus finding this area of academics unattended, many an unscrupulous element and seeker-after-quick-fame ventures into the arena to compile handy guide-books. The authenticity of information is thrown to the winds. Some of the worst publications are being doled out by the compiler-cum-publisher-cum-bookseller in India. Unfortunately, some of our official publications too are the victims of this malady.

(*iii*) *Limited market*: Given the choice, a buyer of books in India would go in for two general books than for one standard reference book in a given subject. Aside from individuals, even the school and college libraries hardly spend any budget on reference books. This tendency of the buyers tends to limit the market of reference books to university and research libraries only.

(*iv*) *Prejudicial authorities*: Even amongst the university and research libraries, the bias of the book-selectors for foreign published reference books in preference to Indian ones, though the latter may be as good or even better than the former, diminishes the chances of the Indian publication being selected. The mentality of "foreign is better" is quite strong among us.

(*v*) *Publishers' dilemma*: The limited market discourages the publisher from undertaking publication of usually costly reference books. If he dares, then unable to take advantage of the economies of large scale, he hikes the price of the publication

* Assistant Librarian, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi-110067.

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thus making it beyond the reach of the marginal buyers. To cut back the cost, the publisher sometimes compromises with the quality of paper, printing and binding. But all these factors boomerang adversely on the sales turnover. The net loser in the bargain is the compiler, who has also to face the ignominy of accepting a lesser rate of royalty than that given to the author of general books.

(*vi*) *Irregular and late publication*: The utility of a reference publication lies in its updatedness and timely appearance. Most of the reference publications have ephemeral value. Behind-schedule publications are as good as scrap-paper. Unfortunately, many of our reference publications—more so the government publications—suffer from this disease.

(*vii*) *High birth and death rates*: Indian publications follow the pattern of Indian population so far as the rates of birth and death are concerned. Both are very high, particularly among the commercial serial publications. At the launching time, these publications promise everything short of the moon, but ere long they start limping and shortly afterwards cease to exist.

Some Suggestions

The abovementioned features—mostly negative—of our reference sources call for a concerted effort on the part of all those involved in their compilation—sponsoring agencies, compilers, publishers, librarians *et al*—to do their bit to rectify the situation. The vicious circle of unreliability—high cost—late publication—poor marketability has got to be broken. A few suggestions in this connection are given hereunder:

(*a*) *Scope of the publication*: It may not be prudent on the part of Indian compilers to enlarge the scope of their publications to the whole world in competition with their foreign counterparts, except in cases where such publications do not exist. But, the least that they can do is to include in their compilations the information for the region which is geographically, culturally and historically one unit, namely South Asia. It is ironical that while reference sources emanating from other countries still treat this region as an entity, we, the inhabitants of this region, in our state of political antipathy, look upon ourselves as apart and exclusive. India being the largest country in the region should give a lead in this direction. The enlarged coverage, apart from rectifying this lacuna, will increase the market for our reference sources.

(*b*) *Separate budget*: The funding authorities should make it incumbent upon the beneficiary institutions to set apart a portion, say 10 per cent, of the total budget for reference books. They may also be obligated to spend some percentage of this budget on Indian reference books. Money spent on reference books is, in the ultimate analysis, a better investment in comparison to textual material.

(*c*) *Subsidy to publishers*: To encourage the publishers to publish reference books and make them available at reasonable rates, they should be provided with paper at the subsidised rates as is being done presently for certain standard textbooks.

(*d*) *Librarians' responsibility*: A library well-stocked with reference books is its first introduction to the readers. The librarian should see to it that the latest editions of the reference books are available in his library. It is also the responsibility of the librarian to give wide publicity to the reference sources being acquired in the library, and to encourage the readers to consult them.

The combined efforts a conscientious compiler, a publisher with a will and an alert librarian can go a long way in promoting reference books in India.

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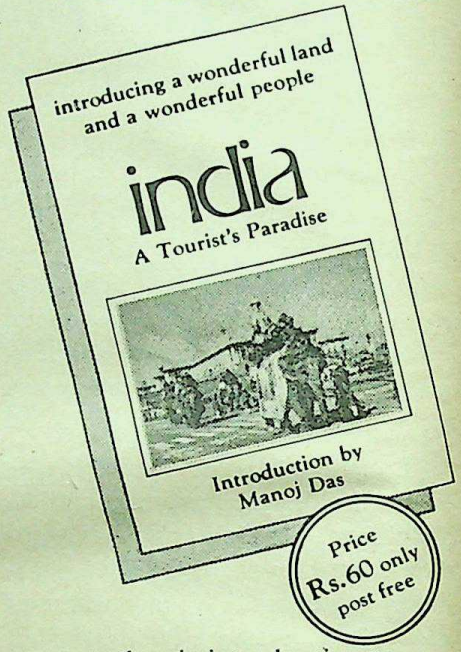

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Publishing Specialized Scholastic Journals

*Taj Rawat**

There is a new wave of publishing specialised journals concerning particular subjects which is gradually taking place in other developing countries too. This system of publishing specialised journals has become a fashion craze in developing countries as these usually highlight the development and happenings on a particular subject or affair, e.g. international affairs, global policies and the subjects related to arts, science and other political issues. All these have their own publications on the abovementioned topics. The subjects like, public relations, educational administration, ecology, UNESCO Studies and ancient art culture, are launching their own publications on higher studies in their respective fields which should be considered a milestone in the field of publishing of specialised scholastic journals. The journals on specific subjects provide prolific views and ideas with a beautiful lustre of language which immediately creates a seminal impact on the reader's mind in an impressive way.

Journal of Management Studies, on management studies of scholars, has experts including Mr Kerenen Legge from Manchester Business School, Booth Street, West Manchester M 15 6 PB. The journal is widely known for its varieties in the field of management studies.

New Community is a journal on 'Community Affairs' and particularly, on the events on the Commission for Racial Equality, edited by Sheila Patterson from Eliott House, 10/12 Alington Street, London. The *New Community* is an excellent journal on racial equality and community affairs. *People* is an interesting magazine for the people of developing countries, edited by a well known journalist and published by International Planned Parenthood Federation, from 18-20 Lower Regent Street, London, U.K.

People is basically a development magazine reporting worldwide on the effort to balance resources and population to promote planned parenthood and to improve human conditions.

Asian Affairs is about the politics and development in Asia edited by Emajuddin Ahmad, Study Group Arts Building, Room No. 1052, University of Dacca, Bangla Desh. The journal is contributed to by well known authors and experts on diplomacy and Political Science. Among the well informed journals are:

New Outlook is of greater educational value and importance on the Jewish Arab dialogue, edited by some eminent scholars from: 2 Karl Netter Street, Tel. Aviv 65202, Israel.

Food Policy is a journal edited by John Holloway, from P. Box 63, Westbury House, Bury Street, Gailford, U.K. It mainly deals with global policy.

Mazingira is a journal of Environment and Development, published from Tycooly International Publishing Limited, 6 Crofton Terrace, Dun Laoghaire Co Dublin, Ireland.

Survival is edited by a group of talented editors from I.I.S.S., 23 Tavistock Street, London. This journal mainly deals with human life to animal life from a perspective angle.

The Muslim World Review is edited by a group of experts and journalists published from the Islamic Foundation, 223 London Road, Leicester, U.K. This review mainly contributes a forum on Muslim art, culture, civilisation and the ancient beauty of their artistry all over the world. *World Information* is a platform for the students and travellers of the world, edited and published from: 21 Gold Street, Saffron Walden, Essex, England.

International Management is an excellent journal on advanced management edited by well known experts like George Bicker Staffe and Roy Hill and published from McGraw Hill House, Shoppenliangers Road, Maiden Road, Berkshire, England.

*Taj Rawat is a Delhi-Based freelance journalist who mainly writes on mass communication, educational planning and administration.

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International Social Science Journal is edited by Peter Langyel, and published from UNESCO, 7 Place de Fontenoy 75700, Paris.

International Journal of Educational Development is edited by Dr John Oxenham, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex. The journal consists of articles on higher educational value.

Journal of Human Resources edited by Mr John Bishop from: Social Science Building, 1180 Observatory Drive, Madison, Wisconson, 53706. This is an interesting journal on human resources.

The Journal of Development Studies edited by a group of experts published from Frank Cass & Co. Ltd., 11 Gainsborough Road, London.

International Journal of Institutional Management in Higher Education published from the Centre For Education Research And Innovation, Organisation For Economic Co-operation And Development, Paris.

UNESCO Courier is an illustrated journal on UNESCO's educational and cultural activities, edited by Howard Brabyn and published from UNESCO's Place de Fontenoy, 75700 Paris.

UN Chronicle is published monthly by the Department of Information, New York. The U.N. Chronicle mainly highlights the UN events in a systematic and prolific way. The best, detailed and accurate journal on UNESCO-oriented work is *UNESCO Review*, edited by Anne Wallace, from Woden ACT, Australia.

There are various other institutions and schools where they produce some illustrated booklets or bulletins on their respective subjects i.e. foreign relations, political and educational developments and several other human development activities etc. These organisations publish their particular sort of journals, newsletters and bulletins with detailed studies.

1. American Research Centre in Egypt Inc. (ARCE) 40 Witherspoon St. Princeton, N.J. 08546. About advanced studies on Egypt Affairs.
2. Memorial Foundation For Jewish Culture, 15E, 26th St. New York, 100010. Established for higher studies on Jewish art and culture.
3. American Institute of Pakistan Studies, 138 Tolentine Hall, Villanova University Villanova, Pa 19085.

International Journal For Mass Communication Studies is a fulfledged journal on mass communication and journalism.

The Centre Magazine is a unique magazine on American affairs published from Santa Barbara California, USA.

There are some journals, genuinely devoted to photo-journalism and news-photography. *Photography* is a unique magazine on photo-journalism published from Bridge Street, Hemel Hampstead.

American Research Institute of Turkey (ARIT) is based on American-Turkish culture and relations in higher values and importance. The Institute is situated at University of Museum, 33rd and Spruce Streets, Philadelphia, Pa 19104.

America Mid-East Educational Centre, Amman, Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Tunis, Rabat, Jerulsalem, Washington is at 1717 Massachusetts, N.Y. (*Aram World* magazine).

Review of Educational Research is edited by Naffley S. Glasman and R. Ed. Rs. from: Graduate School of Education, University of California, Santa Barbara, Ca.

Instructor is a unique journal for young school children and educators. Its Associate Editor is Susan Hool and it is published from Third Avenue, New York. *Weekly Reader* is a magazine for improving reading habits in school children, published from Fairwood, Columbus, Ohio.

E.L.T. Journal is an excellent journal on English Language Teaching edited by Richard Rossuer from the Anglo-Mexican Institute, London, U.K. There are a number of personalities in its editorial and advisory board. The journal is an excellent edition on English language.

Tourism Management is a scholastic journal by John Holloway, 63, Westburry House, Surrey. This journal mainly highlights the tourism trade planning and management in the world.

Seamco Quarterly is an interesting journal on education published from South East Asian Ministers of Education Organisation, SEAMES, 920, Scikhuvit Road, Bangkok, Thailand.

Public Administrative Review is published from the American Society For Public Administration, Washington, DC. (It's President is Chester A. Newland).

Perspectives is a seminal journal on art, culture and communication, edited by Robert J. Arm Bruster, associate editor, Michael, L.S. Schiniper, published from East West Centre, 1717, East West Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96848.

Language Learning and Communication reflects a balance between articles dealing with practical issues in language teaching and more exploratory papers which highlight theoretical insights from disciplines such as linguistics, socio-linguistics, and psycholinguistics. Articles appear in either Chinese or English. The journal is edited by Dr Cheung-yat-Shing, Chinese University, Hongkong, and Dr Jack Croft Richards, University of Hawaii.

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International Social Science Journal is edited by Peter Lengyel, Asstt. editor, Ali Kazan Cigil from UNESCO, 7 Place de Fontenoy, 75700, Paris.

English is an outstanding journal on the English language edited by Martin Dodsworth and published by the Oxford University Press by The English Association. (Editorial Office: 59 Temple Street, Brill Near Aylesburry Bucks, U.K.) It is a classical journal on English literature and higher learning, priced at $ 11.00.

Journal of Curriculum Studies is edited by P.H. Taylor, executive editor, Faculty of Education, University of Birmingham, P.O. Box 363, Birmingham B152 TT, U.K.

Review of English Studies is a quarterly publication of the American Educational Research Association, Washington, which contains integrative reviews and interpretations and educational research, literature on both substantive and methodological issues. It is published in volumes of three parts per year.

Evaluation in Education is an International Review Series edited by Professor Bruce H. Choppin from Centre for the Study of Evaluation, Graduate School of Education, Moore Hall UCLA, Los Angeles, California 40024, U.S.A. and by Professor T. Nevelli Postlethwaite, Hamburg.

The unique journals on population studies are:

Population And Development Review and *Studies in Family Planning*, published by Population Council Plaza, New York. A Quarterly on Asian Development Bank Review and an Annual Report is of unique importance, published from Asian Development Bank, P.O. Box 789, Manila 2800, Philippines.

There is a set of journals dealing with educational planning and administration with a new pattern of educational communication. These journals are:

Educational Administration Quarterly, edited by Glenn Immegart from Graduate School of Education and Human Development, Lathimore Hall, University of Rochester, New York 14627.

Educational Administrative Abstracts, edited by Phil West from College of Education, Texas, USA and *Journal of Educational Equity and Leadership* edited by L. Dean Webb, from 907 Farmer Building, Arizona State University, Temple Arizona, USA.

There is an outstanding and excellent journal on scholastic journalism published from Stanley Foundation Siaite 1610, 230 Park Ave, New York 17. The journals which are of unique importance are: *The World Press Review* and *Global Comments*.

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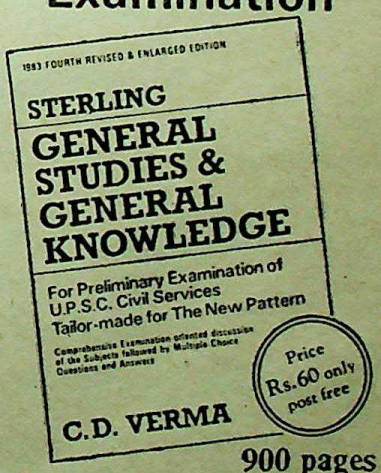

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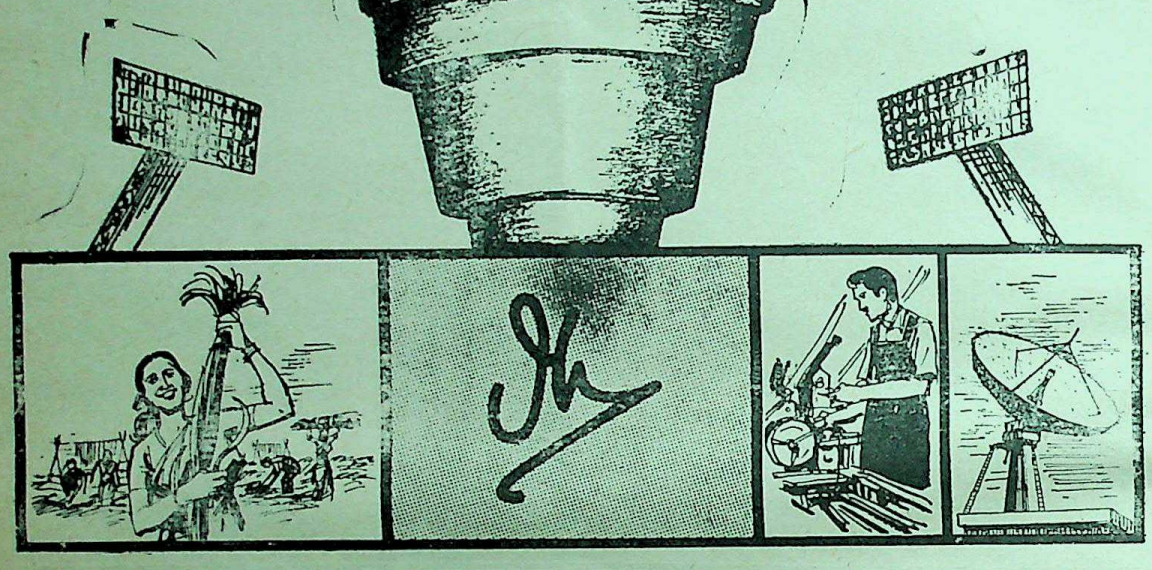

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I.V. Savelyev
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B.M. Yovorsky & A.A. Detlaf
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D.N. Trifonov & V.D. Trifonov
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N. Akhmetov and Others
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V. Ilyin & E. Poznyak
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G. Dorofeev & Others
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ALGEBRA
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This standard book contains an accurate and well-arranged commentary of the principles on Constitutional Law and their application in varied situations arising under the Constitution of India. The new seventh edition incorporates all Constitutional Amendments up to the Constitution 46th Amendment Bill, 1982. The important Supreme Court decisions of far-reaching consequence such as the Maneka Gandhi Case, Minerva Mills Case, the Judges Case have been appropriately discussed.

CRIMINAL COURT HANDBOOK (Three Major Acts) by *P. L. Malik*. 17th Edn. 1982. Price Rs. 80.00.

This popular work combines in one compact volume the full, amended and accurate texts of the three major criminal Acts, namely the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973, the Indian Penal Code, 1860, and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872. An important feature of the book is the incorporated latest caselaw. All amendments, Central and State, have been carefully incorporated in their proper place.

MISCONDUCT IN EMPLOYMENT (IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS) by *B. R. Ghaiye*, 2nd Edn. 1981. Second Reprint with Supple. 1981. Price Rs. 125.00.

The work deals with every possible aspect of 'Misconduct'. The book has been reprinted again within a very short time. The supplement now brings the case-law up-to-date till 1982.

LAW OF CONTRACT IN HINDI (Sanvida Vidhi) by *Dr. Avtar Singh*, 3rd Edn. 1982. Price Rs. 36.00.

CASES AND MATERIALS ON CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE, 1973 by *Bholeshwar Nath & Malik*, 2nd Edn. 1982. Price Rs. 120.00.

This is essentially a practical work and the practicing lawyers and the Courts prefer to have it. The book can save hours of laborious research and enables the practitioners to have at all times all the precedents at their fingertips.

The new edition incorporates up-to-date case-law and amendments and gives the most exhaustive collection of case- law and material on the subject.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW OF INDIA by *T. K. Tope* (Former Principal, Government Law College, Bombay & Ex-Vice-Chancellor, University of Bombay) 1982 Edn. Price Rs. 75.00.

The latest book on the subject, incorporating such recent cases as the 'Transfer of Judges' case. Apart from explaining the principles of Constitutional Law in the light of recent decisions, the book also provides an enlightened discussion on the Constitutional Law probl ems before the country, such as—Presidential *v.* Parliamentary form of Government, Fundamental Duties, the Right to Property, the problem of defection, *etc. etc.*

V. D. KULSHRESTHA'S **TRADE AND MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1958**. 2nd revised and enlarged edition by *Vepa P. Sarathi*, 1982 Edn. Price Rs. 140.00.

The learned author has endeavoured in this book to satisfy the need of the Bench and Bar for a modern up-to-date treatise setting out lucidly and critically the relevant law with the aid of illuminating decisions, Indian and Foreign. The book also contains a lot of useful material in the form of appendices much of which is not to be found in any other similar book.

INDIAN PENAL CODE (in Hindi) by *Murlidhar Cahturvedi*, (Foreward by Hon'ble Mr. Justice *Mahavir Singh*). Price Rs. 50.00.

The author has been awarded a prize for this work on Indian Penal Code. This particular edition has been made very exhaustive and comprehensive for use by lawyers, judges and students.

INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT STANDING ORDERS ACT, 1946 (INCLUDING MODEL STANDING ORDERS, RECOGNITION OF UNIONS & UNFAIR LABOUR PRACTICES) ACT by *K. D. Srivastava*, 2nd Edn. 1982. Price Rs. 95.00.

The book incorporates the recent amendments made by Act No. 18 of 1982. Apart from the section-wise commentary on the Act, an exhaustive commentary has also been given under the Model Standing Orders. Recent case-law and up-to-date amendments have been incorporated. Central and States Rules also given.

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UTTAR PRADESH KSHETTRA SAMITIS AND ZILA PARISHADS ADHINIYAM, 1961 with Rules and Notifications by *Saxena & Malik* with Supple. upto 1982. Price Hardbound Rs. 75.00 and Paperback Rs. 50.00.

SUPREME COURT YEARLY DIGEST, 1981 by *Surendra Malik*, 1982 Edn. Price Rs. 55.00.

Complete coverage of case-law as reported in all important journals. All reportable and non-reportable cases of the year are included. The Digest also covers the most important Judgment on Transfer of Judges case. Comparative tables of all journals are also given. Several useful features like Noterup, (table of overruled, reversed and followed *etc.* cases), alphabetical table of cases *etc.*, are an exclusive speciality of this publication.

LAW OF SUSPENSION by *M. S. Nila*, 1982 Edn. Price Rs. 20.00.

CATTLE TRESPASS ACT, 1871 by *J. V. N. Jaiswal*, 2nd Edn. 1982. Price Rs. 20.00.

UTTAR PRADESH SALES TAX ACT, 1948 TOGETHER WITH U. P. SALES TAX RULES AND LATEST NOTIFICATIONS (upto Act No. 4 of 1982), 5th Edn. 1982 with 1983 Supple. Price Rs. 30.00.

A very reliable publication fully amended and with upto-date Notifications.

LAW OF PARTNERSHIP (Principles, Practice, Taxation) by *Dr. Avtar Singh*, 1982 Edn. Price Rs. 60.00.

LAW AND PROCEDURE OF DEPARTMENTAL ENQUIRIES by *B. R. Ghaiye*, 2nd Edn. 1976, 3rd Reprint with a case-law supplement upto 1982. Price Rs. 165.00.

Now a supplement brings the book up-to-date. A great classic, this work deals with departmental enquiries in all its aspects going step by step from the initial complaint to its final disposal. Case-law from every possible source has been collected on the minutest aspect of departmental enquiry. It also contains up-to-date statutory service rules.

LAW RELATING TO TRADE UNIONS IN INDIA by *K. D. Srivastava*, 2nd Edn. 1982. Price Rs. 110.00.

The new edition has been thoroughly revised and updated with recent case-law and amendments. Parallel law of U. K. and U. S. A. also given. States' Acts, Rules and Regulatons given.

INDIAN PENAL CODE by *Justice V. B. Raju (Retd.)*, 4th Edn. 1982. In two Vols. Price Rs. 200.00.

LAW OF INCOME TAX by *V. K. Sushakumari*, 3rd Edn. 1982. Price Rs. 30.00.

A very lucid and readable work. Says Justice T. Chandrasekhara Menon. "To write about the compli cated subject of income-tax as clearly as she (the author) has done is an achievement". A very useful publication for Law, B. Com., Chartered Accountancy, I. C. W. A. and Chartered Secretary's Course.

LAW OF PARTNERSHIP by *P. N. Chadha*, 3rd Edn. 1982. Price Rs. 110.00.

A manual of complete information on the law relating to partnership firms. Detailed information, upto-date case-law, fully amended text of the Act given. Rules framed by the various States relating to registration given.

LAW OF MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE IN INDIA by *B. P. Beri* (Former Chief Justice, Rajasthan High Court), 1982 Edn. Price Rs. 100.00.

A highly practical work which deals very candidly with the problems and topics that confront the lawyer and the legislator. The easy and simple approach makes the book readable even to the layman. Rules of various High Courts included. Precedents for a variety of actions also provided.

MAKING OF INDIA'S CONSTITUTION by Justice *H. R. Khanna* (formerly Judge of the Supreme Court), 1982 Edn. Price Rs. 40.00.

INTERMEDIATE EDUCATION ACT, 1921 TOGETHER WITH AMENDING ACTS, REGULATIONS, NOTIFICATIONS ETC. 1982 Edn. Price Rs. 20.00.

PAYMENT OF GRATUITY ACT, 1972 by *K. D. Srivastava*, 3rd Edn. 1982. Price Rs. 75.00.

K. D. SRIVASTAVA'S **CONTRACT LABOUR (REGULATION AND ABOLITION) ACT, 1970**, 3rd Edn. 1982 Revised by *G. Saran*. Price Rs. 70.00

SHAMSUL HUDA'S **LAW OF CRIMES**, Reprinted 1982 with a supplementary chapter by *O. P. Srivastava*. Price Rs. 75.00.

A. P. MATHUR'S **COMMENTARIES ON MOTOR VEHICLES ACT, 1939**, 8th Edn., 1981-82 with a comprehensive Supple. 1983. Revised by *S. D. Singh* in two large volumes. Price Rs. 220.00 per set.

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Raja Rammohun Roy National Educational Resources Centre

*M.S. Sharma**

The Raja Rammohun Roy National Educational Resources Centre in Ministry of Education and Culture, Book Promotion Division is an unique institution of its kind in the country, set up for promoting the writing and production of indigenous university level books. The Centre aims at serving authors and publishers of university level books as well as research workers in the field of book production by way of intensive and extensive reference work and documentation services. It also caters to the needs of university teachers and students. Some of the principal activities of the Centre may be summarised as under:

1. Textbook Reference Library

The Centre maintains a library consisting of university level books produced in the country since 1965 in various disciplines in the Indian languages and English, to which fresh publications are added from time to time, as also reference books. The reference library enables intending authors, publishers and others interested to consult, under one roof, the available indigenous university level books and plan the subjects and levels where books could be produced indigenously. For the facility of the readers, the Centre has, besides a spacious reading hall, a number of cabins for serious study.

The Centre has also taken steps to publicise the availability of indigenous university level books, considered by experts to be of the requisite standard, so that such books become widely known among teachers and students in India and are increasingly used by them so that dependence on imported books could be decreased precisely. For this purpose (i) the Centre organises from time to time exhibitions of selected books at different university centres and (ii) it also arranges "On-the-Spot" evaluation of the books received at the Centre, by panels of subject experts. Particulars of books adjudged to be of requisite standard unanimously by the experts are then circulated among the universities, institutions, etc.

Lists of books having export potential, are also compiled and sent to National Book Trust for publicising such books in the foreign markets.

2. Documentation and Statistical Analysis of Imported Books

With a view to boosting the indigenous book industry and in order to help formulating a meaningful import policy for books, the Centre has undertaken the documentation and statistical analysis of the import documents relating to books, from large, established importers, so as to collect the data on the types of books and other reading material that are being imported. Through the sample surveys, the trend of imports would be assessed, and ways and means suggested to enable the indigenous book industry to maximise their production so as to meet the indigenous needs locally, thus reducing the drain on foreign exchange.

3. Sample Surveys

The Centre also undertakes sample surveys on various topics relating to university level book production and use in order to collect data required for galvanizing the book industry in the country.

4. National Catalogue of University Level Books

With the financial assistance of the Ministry of Education, the Federation of Publishers and Booksellers Association in India compiled a National Catalogue of University Level Books covering the period 1965-70, which was published by National Book Trust in 1972. The Centre has been entrusted with the

* Documentation officer, Raja Rammohan Roy National Educational Resources Centre, New Delhi

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responsibility of keeping this catalogue up-to-date by bringing out quarterly supplements. These supplements brought out in mimeographed form are distributed free to publishers, universities and major libraries throughout the country. The Centre will soon bring out the second bound volume of the catalogue.

5. International Standard Book Number Agency

At present there are 20 countries which have adopted this system and which have created their National Book Numbering Agencies for operating the system in their own countries. The necessity of introducing the International Standard Book Numbering in India was long felt in the circles of the indigenous book industry especially to increase book exports. The Centre has been designated as the National Agency for operating the International Standard Book Numbering system in India. The Centre will start working on the project shortly. Besides, the Centre brings out bibliographies, newsletters etc., on various topics of interests or in anticipation of demands of authors and research scholars.

Since 1972, the Centre has organized thirty-two exhibitions of university level books at various university centres and has displayed titles published indigenously in all disciplines besides other books produced under Indo-American, Indo-British (ELBS) and Indo-Soviet collaboration programmes and National Book Trust subsidy scheme. In addition to this, fifty-seven evaluation meetings of subject experts have been arranged and five hundred titles in various disciplines which have been adjudged standard have been circulated and recommended to the various universities where such courses are being taught, for inclusion in the syllabi of various courses.

New Publications 1983

Kahlon, A.S. & D.S. Tyagi	: Agricultural Price Policy in India	Rs. 150.00
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Mankekar, D.R.	: Sheer Anecdotage—Leaves from A Reporter's Diary	Rs. 60.00
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FEDERATION NEWS

HIKE IN POSTAL RATES

The recent hike in postal rates has come as a bolt from the blue and we are sure that you have also felt its adverse effect.

On our part we are organising our protest against the hike. We have sought interviews with the concerned ministers/officials to impress upon them its effect. We are also writing letters to all MPs and other dignitaries. A copy of the memorandum, circulated by us, is enclosed.

We request you earnestly to approach your authors, educationalists, MPs and other dignitaries of your area to raise this issue at various forums/Parliament.

Kindly send letters, telegrams and memoranda (in your own different language) to the Minister for Communications Shri V.N. Gadgil, Government of India, New Delhi. The Prime Minister, the Minister of Education, Shrimati Sheila Kaul and others whom you think fit. Please send a copy of these to us.

We are sure that, with concerted efforts by all of us, there is every likelihood of a favourable response.

APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Mr R.K. Dhingra has taken over as the Executive Secretary of the Federation with effect from 22 March 1983.

ADVANCE COURSE ON STM JOURNAL PUBLISHING

An advance course on STM Journal Publishing is being held from 14 to 17 June 1983 in Netherlands by the International Group of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers. It will be a mixture of lectures and case studies for middle and senior staff focusing on electronic publishing and financial management.

Enrolment forms and other details can be obtained from International Publishers Association, Avenue de Miremont 3 1206 Geneva.

THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING

The third International Conference on Scholarly Publishing is being held in London from 20 to 22 October 1983. Conference themes include financial management for smaller publishers, how and where do Third World Scohlarly/academic publishers sell their publications and transfer of scholarly/academic know-how.

Enrolment forms and other details can be obtained from International Association of Scholarly Publishers C/o Edvard Aslaksen, Universitetsforlaget, Box 2959 Toyen, Oslo 6, Norway.

THE 22ND IPA CONGRESS

The 22nd IPA Congress will take place in Mexico City from 11 to 16 March 1984.

The Work Agenda for the Congress includes the presentation and analysis of topics such as: the free flow of publications; the role of publishers in the production and dissemination of culture; the government as publisher; copyrights and marketing in the publishing industry. One entire day will be devoted to the discussion and analysis of publishing problems in Latin America.

Members interested in the Congress can obtain further details from our Secretariat.

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NEWS & EVENTS

STERLING STALL AT NATIONAL BOOK FAIR CHANDIGARH

Home Secretary, Shri T.N. Chaturvedi at Sterling Publishers stall, in the 11th National Book Fair, Chandigarh. (Seen in the picture from left to right, Shri Chaturvedi, and Mr S.K. Chawla, Mr Lalit Mohun, sales representatives, Sterling Publishers (P) Ltd.)

AWARDS FOR WRITING LAW BOOKS IN HINDI

The Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs announced nine awards ranging between Rs 1,000 and Rs 4,000 to the writers of law books in Hindi and commendation certificates to six publishers.

The award winners: Dr Achche Lal (Varanasi) Rs 4,000 for his book *Prachin Hindi Vidhi*, M/s Jugendra Singh and S. Kumar (Jaipur) Rs 2,000 for his book *Rajasthan Rajistrikaran Kanoon*, Mr K.L. Sethi (Indore) Rs 2,000 for his book *Madhya Pradesh Sthan Niyantran Adhiniyam Va Niyam*, Justice Kailash Nath Goyal (Lucknow) Rs 2,000 for his book *Prashasnik Vidhi*, Mr Ganga Sahai Sharma (Jaipur) Rs 2,000 for his book *Bharat Ka Samvidhan*, Mr Yogendra Tiwari (Jaipur) Rs 1,000 for his book *Hindi Vidhi*, Dr N.D. Sharma (Jaipur) Rs 1,000 for his book *Shram Vidhi*, Mr G.S. Pandey (Lucknow) Rs 1,000 for his book *Bharatiya Samvidhanik*, and Dr Jagdish Kumar Malik (Sriganganagar) Rs 1,000 for his book *Vidhi Shastra Ka Saral Adhyayan*. The publishers are: Indological Book House, Varanasi, Delhi, Unique Traders, Jaipur, De-luxe Publishing Company, Indore, Eastern Law House (Pvt) Ltd, Calcutta, Allahabad Law Agency Publications, Allahabad and Gayatri Publishers, Jaipur.

The scheme provides for awarding of 10 prizes in branch of law to law books written originally in Hindi every year. Consolation prizes are also awarded when necessary.

GUARDIAN AWARD TO INDIAN AUTHOR

The 1982 *Guardian* award for children's fiction has been given to Mrs Anita Desai, a well-known author, for her latest book, *A Village by the Sea*.

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The annual award of the London newspaper, *Guardian* is given to a work of fiction on children by a British Commonwealth author.

The second winner is a Canadian author, Monica Hughes, for her novel of the future, *Ringrise, Ring-set.*

The awards, announced in London, have, for the first time been given to authors in the Commonwealth outside Britain.

In her prize winning book, Mrs Anita Desai gives a vivid picture of how a village boy finds a job in a city and goes back to his area with plans for its future.

ITYADI PRAKASANI INSTITUTES AWARDS

The Calcutta-based publication group, Ityadi Prakasani, has announced cash awards for outstanding achievements to several branches of journalism and literature.

Mr Ashoke Choudhury, managing director of the group, told newsmen that Rs 7,000 each would be given for best investigative reporting, best human interest story and best report or write-up on sports.

A cash award of Rs 5,000 to the Best Bengali literature, besides an identical amount to the best journalist or photographer in Bengali journalism, would be given, he announced.

AWARD FOR EXPORT OF INDOLOGICAL BOOKS

M/s Motilal Banarsidass, leading publishers of Delhi and exporters of indological books have been awarded a certificate of export recognition by the Export Promotion Council in recognition of their export achievement during the year 1981-82. They have been awarded the same certificate in the previous years also.

XXVIIth INTERNATIONALE CONGRESS OF YOUNG BOOKSELLERS 1983

Upon invitation of the Booksellers Association of Great Britain and Ireland the XXVIIth International Congress of Young Booksellers will take place from 21st to 28th May 1983 in the Beatrice Webb House near Dorking in Great Britain. The general theme for the Congress is: New Technology and the Book.

BOOK ON 20-POINT PROGRAMME PRESENTED TO THE PRIME MINISTER

Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi was presented a copy of the Hindi Book *Bees Kadam Bees Kahania* by Prof. Siddheshwar Prasad, former Union Deputy Minister, in the presence of a distinguished gathering.

The book is based on the 20-Point Programme of social and economic development. It is written by Shri Vyathith Hridey a winner of many literary awards.

Releasing the book, the Prime Minister appreciated the efforts of the author and the publisher and said that the message of the 20-Point Programme should reach far and wide. This book will arouse active participation and co-operation of the masses which is so essential for the success of the 20-Point Programme. She emphasized that everybody should read this book.

The book is especially suited for children, adults, neo-literates, Panchayats and village level workers of the development blocks. The book is published by Pitambar Publishing Co.

V.K. GOKAK HEADS SAHITYA AKADEMI

Prof. V.K. Gokak, noted writer and poet in English and Kannada, was unanimously elected president of the Sahitya Akademi for the next five years.

The election was held at a meeting of the Akademi's newly formed general council, an Akademi release said.

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Mr Gokak is at present Vice-Chancellor of the Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning.

Assamese novelist and Jnanpith award winner Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya was elected vice-president.

The council also elected 22 members to represent the languages recognised by the Akademi on the executive board.

BEST GUIDE BOOK

India: A Travel Survival Kit has won this year's Thomas Cook award for the best guide book, according to a British High Commission release in Delhi.

The 1,500-pound prize for the best travel book was bagged by Mr Tim Severin's "Sindbad's Voyage", in which he describes his sea journey from Oman on the spice routes to China in an exact replica of an ancient Arab sailing ship.

UGC AWARDS FOR SCIENTISTS

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has instituted four awards of Rs 10,000 each to be given away every year to outstanding scientists.

The award money will come from the endowment created with funds received from Hari Om Trust, Nadiad (Gujarat).

The new awards are: the Sri C.V. Raman award for research in physical sciences, the Homi J. Bhabha award for research in applied sciences, the Meghnad Saha award for research in theoretical sciences and the Jagdish Chandra Bose award for research in life sciences.

MRS KAPILA VATSYAYAN HONOURED

The Campbell Memorial Gold Medal for 1980 has been awarded to Dr (Mrs) Kapila Vatsyayan, Additional Secretary in the Union Education Ministry in recognition of her "outstanding contribution to the field of the history of Indian arts".

The award, instituted by the Asiatic Society of Bombay in 1907, was presented to her by Vice President M. Hidayatullah at a function here on April 2, according to official sources. The medal is given once every three years.

Mr Hidayatullah will also confer, posthumously, the special Campbell Gold Medal for 1981 on the late Dr C. Sivaramamurti, a world famous indologist and director of the National Museum in New Delhi till his retirement in the early seventies.

Dr Keralapur Krishnamoorthy, head of Karnataka University's Sanskrit Department, had given the late Mahamahopadhya Dr P.V. Kane a Gold Medal for his contribution to the study of Vedic Dharmashastra and "Alamkar Shastra".

Dr Sadashiv Ambadas Dange, former head of Bombay University's Sanskrit Department had received the Asiatic Society's silver medal for 1980 for his distinguished services in oriental research.

Mr Dange is currently the Indian editor of the "Encyclopaedia of Human Ideas on Ultimate Reality and Meaning", compiled by the Regis College of Ontario in Canada.

ISLAMIC VARSITY

An international Islamic University will be set up in Malaysia, according to Dr Sulaiman Haji Daud, Education Minister.

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REFERENCE

Association of Indian Universities, Delhi
Handbook of Engineering education. 1983, Rs 12

Association of Indian Universities, Delhi
Handbook of Medical education. 1983, Rs 12

Bhargava & Bhargava
Taxman's yearly tax digest and referencer. 1983

Das, Sarat Chandra
Tibetan—English dictionary. New Delhi, Milan Publication Services, 1983, xxiv+1354p. Rs 126

Hotel and Restaurant Guide India 1983: Hotels Restaurants and Travel Agents. New Delhi, Federation of Hotel and Restaurant Association of India. 1983, Rs 30

Ministry of Law and Company Affairs, New Delhi
Manual of Election Law. 1982, Rs 20.50

Mudaliar, S.
Abithana Chintamani: An encyclopaedia of Tamil lirerature. New Delhi, Asian Educational services, 1983, 1652p. Rs 200

Urdang, Laurance
Basic dictionary of synonyms and antonyms. Delhi, Orient Paperback, 1983, 400p. Rs 25

Winslow, Spaulding
Comprehensive Tamil-English Dictionary. New Delhi, Asian Educational Services, 1983, 990p. Rs 205

BIOGRAPHY

Iqbal Singh
Rammohun Roy: An inquiry into the making of modern India, 3 vols. Vol. I First phase, Vol. II Middle & Last Phase. Bombay, Jaisingh and Mehta Publishers, 1983, x+332p & xx+500p. Rs 250

Jyoti Sarup
Kung Fu. Delhi, Orient Paperback, 1983, 240p. Rs 15

Mankekar, D.R.
Sheer Anecdotage: Leaves from a reporter's diary. New Delhi, Allied, 1983, xii+474p. Rs 60

Walsh, William
R.K. Narayan: A critical appreciation. New Delhi, Allied, 1983, Rs 40

AGRICULTURE

Diseases in sugarcane. New Delhi, Oxford & IBH, 1983

Aulakh, H.S.
Changing foodgrain market in India. New Delhi, B.R. Publishers, 1983, 312p. Rs 120

Chidda Singh
Modern techniques of raising field crops. New Delhi, Oxford and IBH, 1983

D'Abreo, Desmond
People and forests: the forest bill and new forest policy. New Delhi, Indian Social Institute, 1982, Rs 7.50

Glazovasaya
Soils of the world. Vol. I. New Delhi, Oxford and IBH, 1983, Rs 120

Kahlon, A.S. and Tyagi, D.S.
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WATER SUPPLY & SANITARY ENGINEERING (Public Health Engineering) by Rangwala, Charotar Publishing House, Anand, 1983, Rs 40

An attempt has been made by the author in this text-book to explain in simple language the basic principles of Public Health Engineering.

It is characterised by the clear, methodical and step-by-step treatment of the subject. The presentation is comprehensive and easy to grasp.

The book contains about 200 self-explanatory and neat diagrams, 57 illustrative problems, 33 useful tables and more than 450 questions at the end of each chapter.

This edltion is a major revision and updating of the previous edition. It should therefore, prove to be extremely useful to the Engineering students preparing for Degree Examinations in Civil Engineering of almost all the Indian universities, diploma examinations conducted by various Technical Boards, Certificate courses, and also for U.P.S.C. and A.M.I.E. Examinations.

The book is written completely in Metric Units. The main attraction of this useful work is its low price. With this it can be easily purchased not only by libraries but also by the students.

PROBLEMS OF INDIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT : National & Regional Dimensions by K.N. Prasad, Sterling Publishers, 1983, Rs 200

This work is based on the author's wide experience of and research in India's Economic Development. He examines the causes of the sluggish growth of the nation's economy and points out, in a very clear and incisive manner the reasons for the pockets of backwardness of some specific areas. In three parts the book explores the national dimensions and the regional dimensions, and examines the cause for the backwardness of the Bihar region. In the last part, he outlines the need for an institutional approach to these problems.

The book is writen in a lucid style, employing the latest idioms and phrases. It should prove useful to the students of Economics, Commerce, Business Management, Sociology, Political Science, Geography, etc., for their university and competitive examinations and for their research work as well as to the general readers of a wide range of interests.

ESSAYS ON INDIAN ECONOMICS : A Collection of Essays and Speeches by M.G. Ranade, Publications Division, 1982, Rs 10

The first edition of this book was published in December 1898 by Teacher & Co. Ltd., Bombay. The book was aptly described as "Most matured thoughts of modern India on large economical questions which call for immediate solution."

This is one of the rare books on the subject, a product of original research into the basic factors of Indian Political Economy and a rich source for the students of Economics and Social Sciences. The book is written by Justice Ranade who studied both sides of the question with a desire to arrive at the truth and spared no pains to make himself acquainted with first-hand sources of information.

SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE AND THE INDIAN NATIONAL MOVEMENT by Hari Hara Das, Sterling Publishers, 1983, Rs 175

Subhas Chandra Bose deserves pride of place among the national leaders who have put India on the world map.

Bose made significant contributions to the youth and the students' movements in India. The ascendancy and decline of militant nationalism under the presidentship of Bose and his subsequent expulsion from the Congress was an anti-climax in the high drama of the National Movement. After his expulsion from the Congress, he remained busy with the left consolidation movement. The popularity of the Forward Bloc was responsible in radicalizing the Congress to a great extent.

The saga of the Indian Freedom Movement as organised by Bose out-

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side the frontiers of India, exhibits Bose's great organising ability, and his invincible courage. It has been proved with evidence that Bose was no apologist of the Axis powers. His concern was to harness the military might of Germany and Japan in achieving the freedom of India.

DIGITAL COMPUTER DESIGN PRINCIPLES : With Introduction to Microprocessors by M.R. Bhujade, Pitambar Publishing Company, 1982, Rs 32

This book has evolved through the author's experience in teaching the undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Digital Computers, Digital Computer Components, Digital Computer Architecture and Digital Computer Fundamentals at the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay. The material presented in this book is class room tested through a series of lecture notes.

The chapters on Number Systems, Boolean Algebra, Logic Design and Digital Systems Building Blocks from the prerequisite to understand the Digital Computer Design Principles, and those on memories bring out the understanding and design principles of traditional core memories as well as the latest semiconductor memories. The material on Computer Architecture, Processor Design and I/O Systems bring out the basic principles involved in the working and design of digital computers with various facilities. A reader having the knowledge of the material in these chapters shall be able to understand the literature and use of any computer (including microprocessors) in its machine/assembly language level. A separate chapter on microprocessors gives complete discussion of 8080 and 8085 microprocessors. The micro-processors are chosen for discussion due to their popularity.

The book besides serving as a text on Digital Computer Hardware Design can also serve the electronic/computer engineers in industries who have to deal with computer hardware or computer-based equipments.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW OF INDIA by T.K. Tope, Eastern Book Company, Lucknow, 1982, Rs 75

A constitutional expert of that era and a teacher in this subject of long standing, provides this lucid and comprehensive commentary on the Constitution of India. The author has brought to bear on the subject his valued opinions based on his vast academic and legal experience. The political and social consequences of the working of the Constitution and its economic implications have been amply considered.

Students of constitutional law would find the topic-wise discussion of the chapters of the Constitution of India highly conducive to easy understanding of the subject. New light has been shed on topics such as 'Fundamental Duties', 'Right of Property', 'Suitability of Parliamentary System to India', 'Merits of the Presidential Form of Government' and 'Election Reforms'.

Recent important decisions of the Supreme Court like Maneka Gandhi, the Minerva Mills case and the Judges case have been elaborately considered.

The book meant for Lawyers, Law Teachers and Law students would be found equally useful by teachers and students of Political Science. Justices would also find several aspects of interest.

SANJIVA ROW'S REGISTRATION ACT (7th Edition), Revised by B. Malik & M.C. Desai, Law Publishers, Allahabad, 1982, Rs 150

Sanjiva Row's Registration Act has commanded for itself the pride of place now for nearly seventy years. It was first published in 1912 and now it appears in its 7th edition. The masterly manner of the treatment of the subject and the analytical enunciation of the provisions of this important branch of law have earned for the book the appreciation of all those who have to deal with the Act. The basic principles as adumbrated in the Act and as developed by legislative amendments and judicial pronouncements were dealt with by the learned jurist in a style peculiarly his own and are now approved by learned readers in unambiguous acclamation.

Since the apprearance of the previous editions of the book, a volume of case law has developed. That has been carefully considered and incorporated in the present edition at appropriate places and under relevant headings and sub-headings. Another important aspect comprises of the state amendments which have taken care of in each one of the seven editions of the book.

There are other statutes which cast certain obligations on the registration authorities e.g. the Urban Land (ceiling and regulation) Act, Income-Tax Act, Estate Duty Act, Delhi Municipal Corporation Act and Delhi Lands (Restrictions on Transfer) Act. The Provisions have almost all been incorporated in the book.

The authors have tried their best to make the book completely up-to-date and comprehensive and it is hoped that readers would find the book of worth.

BRAHMA IN THE PURANAS by Dr. Mohammad Israil Khan, Crescent Publishing House, Ghaziabad, 1981, Rs 90

Brahma is one of the most important deities of the *Puranas*. In the *Vedic* literature he is not mentioned; but later on, he emerges as the foremost god. Generally, savants have been indolent towards him as they desisted from writing on him. The present work aims to fill up the gap. This useful work is divided into five chapters. The first chapter highlights the importance of Brahma and the place occupied by him in the *Puranas*. In the following chapters, many obscure aspects of

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the personality of Brahma have been put forth with detailed explanations. Symbol plays a key role in Hinduism. An attempt has been made, from place to place, to explain various symbols that are related to Brahma in many forms and varieties. An innocent reader knows Brahma under a few names; but this book presents a list of names, which suggest some deep meanings. The God has behind them. Besides this, the book contains 38 plates of the God's images, which are the best selected from the various schools of India. Thus, the book is important for the departments of Sanskrit, culture, religion, history, drama, museum, archaeology, etc.

THE HIMALAYAN GATEWAY : HISTORY AND CULTURE OF SIKKIM by George Kotturan, Sterling Publishers, 1983, Rs 75

India is a country of immense diversity in life and culture. It is in this context that regional studies are important in their contribution to the making of the Indian nation. The central theme in this book is the social and political consolidation of the Indian people as a whole. This study of Sikkim is designed to show the pattern of political and social compulsions which finally made the people there cast their lot with India. Historically and culturally Sikkim is unique. It extends geographically right to the border to Tibet and must be considered as the main gateway across the Himalayas. This book makes a study of this 'Gateway', and the history, culture and rich folklore of this region.

SOUTH-EAST ASIA IN INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY : A Study of India's Relations with South-East Asian Countries—From 1962—82 by Asis Kamar Majumdar, Naya Prokash, Calcutta, 1982, Rs 95

This well-documented and absorbing book probes deep into the interactions of the foreign policies of India and the South-East Asian countries from 1962 to 1982 within the overall context of the strategies of the Super Powers in the region.

Important world events of the period have been analysed with emphasis on their impacts on Indo-South-East Asia relations. Besides, Indo-Asian relations, the Super-Power rivalry in the Indian Ocean and the economic ties between India and the South-East Asian countries, have been studied in order to grasp the present position and the future possibilities of Indo-South-East Asia relations.

The author justifies that India's South-East Asia Policy still suffers from inconsistency, indecisions, and indifference to the aspirations of the peoples of South-East Asia. The future prospect of India's relations with the countries of the region shall depend on how India can shape her political and economic policies towards these countries in an unbiased and unprejudiced way.

MODERN PUBLIC LIBRARY : Movement & Services in India (1800-1981) by G.L. Trehan, Library Literature House, Chandigarh, 1983, Rs 80

This volume is an indepth study of the modern public library movement in India. It provides a glimpse into eminent library personalities and contributions of makers of Library India since 1800. The author makes an empirical study and a systematic analysis of the literature available on the subject and portrays some of the important library institutions and their principal activities, origin of indigenous library movement in India and founders of great public libraries in India, including Benefaction Libraries in British India and princely States, and life stories of Iyanki and Nagabhushanam of Andhra Pradesh.

The study can contribute vigorously to formulating of national public library policy by the Government and provide the spurt to action when the bureaucracy or the library authority fails to perceive vital national interest of making our country a nation of readers.

The book is well illustrated with pictures of eminent library personalities, pioneers and architects of the public library movement, both in the North and in the South.

NEWZEALAND BOOKS IN PRINT 1982 (11th Edition) Published by D.W. Thorpe Pty. Ltd, Australia, 1982, Subscription $ 10 p.a.

This is the eleventh edition of *New Zealand Books in Print* and the fourth to be published by D.W. Thorpe Pty. Ltd. It has been combined with the Directory of the Book Publishers Association of New Zealand, containing all the information the Directory previously provided.

This journal is produced annually. The format has been specially modified over the years to cater to the needs of booksellers, libraries and schools throughout the world.

All New Zealand books are listed thrice in each volume under AUTHOR, TITLE and SUBJECT MATTER. All details regarding the book, its author, price and publisher can be found under these heads.

Other sections of the book include the Directory of the Book Publishers Association of New Zealand, other associations literary societies, prizes and awards, literary agents, series of books and overseas publishers with New Zealand agents.

There is no charge for entry in any section, the publishers take great pains to keep the journal up-to-date.

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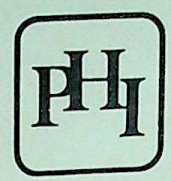

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The book will be of great value to the students of B. Com., B. Com. (Hons) and M. Com. of various Indian universities.

P.V. Rathnam is presently the Controller of Accounts, N.M.D.C. Limited, Hyderabad.

ABC OF EXPORT MARKETING
(2nd Revised and Enlarged Edition)
—M. Sampangi 116pp, Rs 22

The present volume seeks to educate small industrialists and interested exporters on the intricacies and procedure of export marketing. It will also be of use to students and teachers of Commerce & Export Marketing.

Mr. Sampangi is at present in the Ministry of Finance as Deputy Economic Adviser.

TEACHING OF SOCIAL STUDIES
(Revised and Updated Edition)
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The revision of the book has been necessitated due to tremendous changes both in the content and the methodology of teaching social studies. The scope of the book has been made broad-based and comprehensive and the approach practical and functional. Every effort has been made to equip the social studies teacher with the new concepts.

S.K. Kochhar is at present Vice-Principal, Govt. College of Education, Chandigarh.

TEACHING OF HOME SCIENCE
(2nd Revised and Enlarged Edition)
—R.R. Das & Binita Ray 144pp, Rs 16

The present book is designed for teachers and should be especially useful for graduate and post-graduate students of Education taking up 'Methodology of Teaching Home Science'. This book would be an extremely useful guide and reference for teachers and students of home science.

R.R. Das is at present Principal, Training College, Orissa. Binita Ray is at present Lecturer & Head, Deptt. of Education Govt. College, Sundargarh, Orissa.

ADVANCED STUDY IN THE HISTORY OF MEDIEVAL INDIA
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—J.L. Mehta 336pp, Rs 25

The book is a critical and analytical study of the various stages in the long and chequered socio-cultural history of medieval India. It reviews the slow and steady decay of ancient Hindu society with its glorious Rajput culture and its replacement by Indo-Muslim society and culture, the path of tradition moving from open confrontation to gradual cooperation, integration and synthesis. The book is an essential reading for students of Indian history.

ATTENTION AND DISTRACTION
—Anima Sen 208pp, Rs 25

The book is an attempt to study the developmental history of attention in experimental psychology. During the last two decades various facets of attention have been so extensively investigated that it has become an important area in contemporary cognitive psychology. he book should fill the vacuum of texts on attention and distraction in the market.

Dr Anima Sen, is at present Reader and the Head of the Department of Psychology, Delhi University, Delhi.

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Publication of Textbooks by Public Sector

*Narendra Kumar**

"For more than one-third of our planet's adult population, the written word remains a mystery," said the then UN Secretary-General, U Thant, in the Sixties. Speaking of India in the Eighties, we could say that nearly two-thirds of our population is afflicted with illiteracy, and not only does the written word remain a mystery to them, but quite often, only a distant possibility.

In all developed countries of the world, literacy begins at home. In developing countries, and certainly in India, literacy, more often than not, begins at school, and reading material that is made available at the school level is—also more often than not—almost the only material that most people ever read. This singular feature of our situation makes for a corresponding situation in our book publishing industry that can only be described as unique.

Let us look at the figures and examine some facts. About 70 per cent of publishing in India today is accounted for by "programmed books", which are functional in scope and objective. They constitute the tools of education, are intended for use primarily at the school level, and are produced by state agencies for state-run schools.

In 1967, the Dastur Survey summarized student enrolment and the gross and net annual demand for textbooks, for the Seventies. Calculated on the basis of a three-year life span for texts, in 1970-1971, 96 million enrolled students required 1,137 million-textbooks, which means that 379 million copies were published in that one year. By 1975-76, student enrolment had gone up to 123 million and their gross demand for three years was for 1,542 million copies. In 1980-81 there were 149 million students on the rolls, their gross demand estimated at 1,908 million copies.

According to this Survey (based on the Education Commission's Report, 1966) we are producing, from the first year of the Eighties on, 636 million copies of textbooks. If, we accept the ratio of textbooks to total production as 70 per cent to be correct, we produced in 1980-81 nearly 1,000 million copies of texts.

In financial terms, this is a Rs. 100 crores per year business, and constitutes the rolling finance of the trade. Money generated from textbook publishing is used to finance creative and non-academic writing, and because the sale is assured *and renewed* each year, it makes for a stability that encourages sustained publishing endeavour and has, historically, been responsible for much great publishing in the world.

In India, this lucrative market is almost wholly state controlled. Thirty years ago, when free India formulated her strategies for "planned development" several "core" sectors were appropriated to state or public sector agencies. They included, among others, heavy industry, iron and steel, electrical and engineering goods, public services—and education. A problem as vast as illiteracy, it was thought, required an equally vast machinery to contain it. This could be assured only if the state, through its various agencies, entered the field of publishing and controlled the production of school texts.

A Rs. 100 crores a year industry was thus, at a stroke, withdrawn from the reach of private publishers, but a handful who catered to a sliver of the private school market. The state embarked upon a number of mostly uncoordinated book expansion programmes; massive funding was made available to produce and promote Indian writing of educational interest and to establish libraries in English and regional languages. Agencies were set up at the national level, to "fill" the book gaps and to foster "book mindedness", but there was no concerted effort made to set up complimentary organisations at the state level to jointly undertake research and followup studies on regional and national reading habits, without which the inculcation of book-mindedness is a difficult proposition.

149 million students waited to be taught. The state began to find it difficult to produce the enormous amount of literature required for this purpose. It has not, for instance, been able to produce literature on a mass scale for the dissemination of information in the remoter parts of the country. It has not been able to produce children's literature in anywhere near the quantities required. It has not been able to publish successfully in the regional languages, and more importantly, it has not been able to produce encyclopaedias or reference books that are reliably authored. This may explain why our number of books produced, per million of population is abysmally low.

What the state has done, however, is to successfully elbow out the private publisher in the field of textbook publishing, and those 1,000 million copies of textbooks produced annually, are largely their preserve. As a result, they are of

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a sameness that is regrettable: there is a near total disregard for quality, either in content or presentation; a similar disregard for revision and updating; not enough care taken in the commissioning and screening of authors; almost no care at all for regional and ethnic variations in requirements; shoddy texts that are a serious deterrent to learning and, not unoften, characterised by poorly written text, equally poorly presented. Their continued inability to meet time schedules and make books available well in time for the school year is of course, well-known. All this is covered by a monopoly situation that guarantees sales, however unwholesome the product; simply because there is no competition—and no choice.

Can we afford this absence of democracy in our education?

The Education Commission (1944-66) recommended a definite and well-defined role for Central and State governments in the business of education. This was to scrutinize textbooks and, in a limited way, to undertake the production of quality texts that could serve as models. It further recommended that four books in each subject for each class be selected so that it be left open to teachers to choose a text best suited to the academic requirements and attainment of their particular school.

On the basis of its recommendations, the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) was assigned to bring out model textbooks that would encourage private publishers to publish suitable ones, keeping in view the national perspective. NCERT, however, has overstepped its prescribed limits and entered commercial textbook publishing, supported by the State.

Is it not time that a policy formulated one generation ago be reviewed? Is it not time that we take fresh stock of the situation, and make the making of books—text and otherwise not an exclusive but an all-encompassing activity? Not a moribund, but a dynamic and forward-looking one?

No Education Commission so far recommended the monopolisation of textbooks. Where private publishers have been allowed to enter the field—in college level texts, for instance—they have shown that they are capable of responsible and serious publishing.

Healthy competition spurs maximum activity, without which the inclination will be to slide towards a static situation at best, and a steady decline in quality, at worst. Nationalisation tends to replace a large number of texts by a single one, a diversity of views, approaches and solutions by formulae, and variety in presentation by a repetition that numbs the senses. At the simplest level, it means that where there should be a range and wealth of authors, there are only a handful; where there should be a multiplicity of choice, there is a lowest common denominator; and where there should be a steady and strong infusion of ideas, there is often only a tired retelling of facts. Where is the room for experimentation in such a system? And where the impetus?

The role that state boards and agencies have to play is at the level of building an infrastructure, at the far more basic and crucial level of reviewing and reforming policies, examination procedures, curriculum requirements, ultimate objectives and alternative strategies, at the level of the very thrust and purpose of our educational system. It is at the State's initiative that national book development policies can be outlined; whether these are fiscal—as in the case for a Book Finance Corporation, or the provision of subsidies that will take care of the current slow rate of sale and even slower inflow of cash—or non-fiscal, as in the case for a strong library network, the type and variety of books to be produced, and the setting up of cells at the regional level to impart training and locate new and local talent.

It is said that knowledge has three aspects: information, communication and dissemination. While the first two can conceivably be shared by private and public sectors both, there can be little question that it should be left to the private sector to ensure the widest and most effective dissemination possible of this knowledge at each stage of the learning process.

(Paper presented at the National Seminar on Publishing by Public Sector at Chandigarh, 27th February 1983)

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Terrors Of The Textbook

Preeti Mehra

Vinod is thirty and hates reading. It's impossible for him to concentrate on a book for more than fifteen minutes. During his childhood teachers called him "inattentive"; they thought he should pay more attention to his textbooks. His parents called him "backward"—"we can't make him sit and study for even half an hour at a stretch. He's just not interested in acquiring knowledge."

It was true that Vinod ran away from his studies—he preferred walks in the park, playing with stray animals, solving jigsaw puzzles and building castles on the sand. He would have loved reading exciting story books and watching unusual pictures if someone had cared to introduce them to him—all that he was told to do was study textbooks which he found difficult to read.

Many teachers would sympathise with Vinod's dilemma. Said Aruna, a political science teacher in a leading college in Bombay: "The 11th std. text is too difficult for the students. Introduced to the subject for the first time they find the language to technical terms like dialectical materialism, Marxism, etc., are used without any explanation or without being related to meaningful historical situations. Concepts are not explained simply as they should be, so that the students can obtain a strong grounding in the subject."

Prof. A. M. Donde from the Siddharth College of Arts and Science echoes the same thoughts where economics is concerned. "The textbooks of company law and Indian economics," he says, "are loaded with information. They include enough for the B.A. and M.A. syllabi. Much of this is unnecessary and often incorrect too. Ironically enough, for some strange reason, the university has asked us to omit a chapter which is very relevant to the other chapters."

Prof. D'Souza of the same college says: "The Xth std. syllabus for maths is much more challenging than the syllabus for the XIth and XIIth stds. The question papers, however, are so easy that it is difficult to sift the good students from the laggards. The same goes for the textbook. In this case it is the syllabus that needs to be modified."

Said a psychology teacher: "The authors of textbooks do not give references for their quotations. For instance, an arbitrary statement is made out of context: 'Girls are more jealous than boys. This was the conclusion of a survey conducted in a specific social environment and is not valid as a generalisation. Also, concepts are, so to speak, introduced in a vacuum without any background or explanation." In the chapter "Stages in Development, only one paragraph has been devoted to childhood while I took at least one month to teach the topic."

Another shocking smug—at the same time contentious—sentence goes: "Boys are curious about anyone wearing a skirt or a blouse and girls are interested in anyone wearing trousers and shirts." The statement is supposed to enunciate the boy-girl relationship. It is a glaring example of the crudity and absurdity that fairly frequently make their appearance in textbooks. Its unhealthy effect on XIIth std. students need not be emphasised.

Sexism frequently vitiates textbooks. In a discussion of children's styles and sex-types, this statement is made: "The male child styles himself as a boy and likes to associate himself with the father. Girls, on the other hand, become more interested in the activities of the mother." Said a psychology teacher: "The statement is correct but the way it is worded is wrong." It should be added that the side implications of such statements tend to reinforce myths about sexual differences.

Another senior college psychology teacher remarks: "By the time we finish the first year B.A. course which consists of a detailed study of the brain, the nervous system and the sensory organs, the students are absolutely put off. There should instead be some co-ordination between the junior and senior college syllabi so that we could space out boring classes in anatomy with

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chapters on learning, emotions, motivations memory, intelligence, personality, etc.".

Literature and language teachers have a lot of grouses. Said Professor Yadav Rao Gangurde, head of the Marathi department in Siddharth College: "The Marathi syllabus is so heavy that we are unable to finish it in time. I also feel strongly about the Dalit literature included in the textbook. Some of the stories—for instance 'Sangava' by Shankar Rao Kharat—denigrate the Dalits by celebrating a saga of oppression. Instead, they should include stories that speak of change and revolt in the Dalit community. One image in Son Kamble's story is that of a Dalit dragging the carcass of a dog. This does not provide a source of inspiration for the Dalit students in our college; instead, it makes them ashamed of their history. When there is a literature of revolt, why is it not included in the textbooks? Anna Bao Sathe's **Phakira** or **Vijayanta** would be an ideal choice."

Asha Naithani, teaching Hindi at St. Xavier's college, found the short stories in the XIIth std. textbooks very lengthy and heavygoing. She said: "There is no doubt that the best of Hindi writers have been included in the text but the choice of prose is indifferent. Instead of Mahadevi Verma's **Bhabhi** and Dharamvir Bharti's **Kurmanchal Mein Kuch Din** they could have easily selected livelier examples of writings by the same authors. While studying the former story the student has to grapple with far too many Sanskrit words and in the latter with philosophical concepts. Though our policy is to encourage students to study Hindi we actually put them off with such tedious lessons."

English lecturers found the junior college rapid reader, **Twenty-thousand Leagues Under the Sea** very badly abridged. A teacher from Khalsa College discovered that some of the poems included in the **Yuva-bharati** failed to interest the children. "If You Call Me" by Sarojini Naidu, a love poem, contains sexual images that are difficult to explain in class. "Middle Age" by Kamala Das cannot sufficiently interest the young students. They just don't identify with the subject.

Parents too find the pressures of competitive education increasing. Mrs. Dixit, the mother of two schoolgoing children, observed: "I feel like the second headmistress at home. Because of the large number of textbooks my children have to study, I have to keep goading them to study when I would actually like them to go out and play. Sometimes I have to spend two to three hours teaching them and at other times I have to do part of their homework." Mr. Menezes, the father of a college student, felt that it was a shame that textbooks had become publicity material for various and castes communities. "This gross exploitation of a child's mind," he said, "must be strongly condemned. I would really like to know how textbooks like these are approved by the so-called responsible board members?" Another parent, who is also giving part-time tuition, found chapters in history textbooks unconnected with one another. Said he: "The child has no perspective of time and space when he is studying history. He just can't understand the link between Ashoka the Great and the golden age of the Guptas. As far as he is concerned societies during the reign of both dynasties existed in a vacuum."

Most parents were critical of the plethora of examination boards in one city. Said Mrs. Sharma from Bombay: "Bombay has students appearing for examinations under the Maharashtra Board, the Pune Board, the Delhi Board and the All-India Board and each have their own set of textbooks. My two children, one studying under the SSC system and the other under the ICSE system, can never use each other's textbooks although there is only a year's difference between them. Also, admissions are so difficult these days that it is impossible to admit them in the same school at this stage."

Students feel as harassed as parents. With exams as a noose round the neck, their quest for knowledge and understanding is curbed. Their main aim is somehow to get a degree. Most students felt that with the existing system of education they just couldn't do without textbooks and guides Said Anjali, a third-year student. "Sometimes our classes are like proof-reading sessions. We spend half the time looking up the errata at the end of our text." Maladi Bhaskar, another senior college student, felt that the non-availability of certain textbooks hampers their studies. "The textbook for fisheries science is not available in India," he says. "Our teacher had to have it imported from Hong Kong."

Why is it that when a book is only needed for a select number of students there is no attempt to pnblish it in India? Moreover, when the authorities know that they cannot make a certain book available for students why is the syllabus derived from that very text?

Uninspiring diagrams and substandard English in junior college textbooks were also the subject of criticism by several students. Malini, a twelfth standard student, said: "Often the caption does not correspond to the diagram. Also, the poor prose has a bad influence on our own language."

Who are these shadowy people who write these tomes of knowledge"? Almost every textbook is written or compiled by a teacher who is interested, as our investigations confirmed, more in pocketing

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massive royalties than in imparting knowledge to young people.

The textbooks for B.A. classes are not prescribed by the board but recommended by the teachers themselves. This in itself is an unconventional and refreshing practice which could be very beneficial to students if only considerations of money were not at the back of it. At present, five to six teachers form a "syndicate" to write a textbook. This ensures the acceptance of the book in the colleges where they teach and a tidy sum both for themselves and the publishers.

A professor of social sciences told us this interesting story: "When a publisher approached me to write a book, I agreed, not knowing that he would rope in another person. There was no co-ordination between the two of us. I am, frankly, ashamed of the end-product. In a second book, I have merely loaned my name—none of the work is originally mine. It's my fault, I suppose. I didn't realise that writing and publishing textbooks are such a big, unethical business."

The head of the department of the science faculty in a college complained that the junior college book authored by him and approved by the board had not been revised in its last nine reprints. "I want to update the book but the Maharashtra Board doesn't allow a single change. In effect the book which I wrote in 1975 is still being read in 1983."

The private publisher plays the same gimmick in reverse. He is keen on early, revised reprints so that it can rake in profits year after year. "The profit margin is quite steep," said the science professor. "The cost price of one of my B.A. textbooks is a meagre Rs. 3, but the publisher has priced it at Rs. 14."

The publishing of guides is an even bigger racket. Some are written by the same author who compiled the textbook and others by more inferior writers. After the Maharashtra Board ruling that authors of guides would be forbidden from setting and evaluating examination papers, the by-lines on popular "keys" changed from the name of the author to vague names like Deepak and Navneet, enabling the anonymous authors to continue the evaluation of question papers.

A guide which costs Rs. 2 to 4 to print is sold for a whopping Rs. 12 or Rs. 14. Apart from the few conscientious ones, most students dish out that much extra for every subject they study. Notwithstanding the high price, the quality of the guides is appalling. "Not only does every page abound in spelling errors and grammatical mistakes, most contain incomplete answers and illogical solutions", said a teacher. The Maharashtra Board's model test papers and solutions are themselves a sophisticated "master key". Model solutions, by providing 'quickie' methods, inhibit a student's initiative and shorten his prespective and understanding of the subject.

Private publishers apart, even government institutions are alleged to have indulged in academic corruption. In a recent statement to the press Madhu Deolekar, MLC and general secretary of the Bharatiya Janata Party, alleged large-scale corruption in the Maharashtra State Textbook Bureau. According to his report, the Bureau had favoured a certain erring publisher by waiving rules which earned the said publisher Rs. 3 lakhs. Construction work on behalf of the bureau had also been given to a specific contractor with inviting tenders. Reams of paper worth Rs. 2,50,000, issued by the government of Maharashtra on concessional rate had been given to a private publisher at reduced prices.

The report has indicated a loss of Rs. 40 lakhs for the Bureau due to these transactions. Although the director of the Textbook Bureau, Dr. R.S. Saraf, has denied these charges, scandals related to academics surfacing in the press indicate the lacklustre of officials, private business and the public in general to the question of education.

At the end of it all, the one who faces the crunch at the examinations is the student. Said a geography teacher: "However much one might try to teach through other media, when the exams approach all the children are back to mugging the textbooks and guides. Their enslavement is so great that the first question one is asked on the first day of the term is: 'Miss, what textbook do we use?' And our examination system is largely to blame for it."

Veena Chawla, herself the author of a history textbook, feels that those who write history textbooks are not clear about why history is important. There is no effort towards making a concept a live experience. "The ideal textbook," she explained, "is one which is not only readable but colourful and alive with anecdotes and humour, so that it is capable of exciting the imagination of a child. The author must be totally unbiased, otherwise the end-result, as in the case of the VIIIth std. history textbook, would be fraught with controversy."

Vinita Pandit, of the Arya Vidya Mandir, Bombay, is a teacher with a difference. She has taught science without textbooks for the past four years: indeed she is writing a thesis on "teaching without textbooks".

Said Mrs. Pandit: "There is no scope for innovation when children's studies are confined to textbooks. They begin to believe that everything printed in black and white is the gospel truth and make no effort to find out things for themselves.

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"My experiment is restricted to the middle school because in these years there is no pressure of board exams on the students and, in any case, once they get used to finding out the facts for themselves they continue the habit in later years.

"I tell the students in advance of the topic and it is their job to go to the library and collect as much information on the subject as they can. Once they have their points ready, we discuss the chapter in class. The children make note of whatever they might have missed out. In this way they learn how to extract information from other books rather than their prescribed text.

"To present a child from hankering after a particular reference book in the belief that I myself use it, I walk into class with a different book every time. I never open the book in class but the fact that I'm carrying it makes the children dash into the library in search of it. Over the days, they read through a lot of books. I also encourage them to make diagrams on their own and try out experiments in class. Children can be extremely innovative. They have made their own periscopes and kaleidoscopes without my help.

"I don't believe that teachers are infallible. My students and I journey together. In fact, teaching without textbooks isasmuch a challenge and exercise in creativity for the teacher as it is for the student. During the first term of my experiment, I had worried parents pouring in to see me. They couldn't understand how their children could study adequately without textbooks. Fortunately, they agreed to give me six months to prove my experiment and it worked—by mid-term they came back to tell me that they had never seen their children so enthusiastic about science."

Mrs. Pandit's mode of operation, if it were to be known widely, would perhaps bring protests from all over the country. It entails a complete upsetting of the norms of education prevalent at present. Not too many of India's educationists pay much attention to Ivan Illich either; it would, perhaps, be asking too much of a system of education that has been stagnating for a century now, not just years.

In this light, therefore, the least that would be necessary is a thorough academic, social and psychological probe into the "textbook technique of terrorising" children away from all yearning for knowledge. A school is not a jail where selected chunks of facts and deductions are rammed down the throat of children. A school is an open playground, a beginner's library for all the knowledge and wisdom of humankind.

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Public Sector as Publisher

Abul Hasan*

In India, as in other developing countries, textbooks being the basic tools of education command the highest priority and their production at the school level is by and large controlled by the state. Almost all textbooks for classes I to VIII have been nationalised. As for secondary and senior secondary levels, the production of a majority of textbooks is in the hands of Governments of States and Union Territories. Charged with the responsibility of compulsory primary education of regional languages, educational authorities in the states had to involve themselves directly with the publication of educational books with a view to combining high quality with low prices.

The role of the government as a publisher of educational material, particularly of school textbooks, has been a bone of contention for decades. This situation has been faced by almost all countries, developed or developing. Arguments have been advanced, both for and against, state participation in this crucial area of book publishing. The arguments against nationalisation of textbooks include usually the absence of competition which may erode quality, lack of freedom of choice for teachers and educators, lack of incentives to writers of textbooks who are often paid employees or committees, dissipation of government resources and energies which could be diverted to important areas like examination reform and curriculum development, and totalitarianism in education.

It is further argued that state involvement in the textbook field has deprived the private sector of its bread and butter, since textbook sales constitute a sizable portion of the book trade turnover. If the textbooks had been in the hands of the private sector, the gains derived from them would have enabled the publishers to undertake risky publication projects, which are equally vital for progress. In the developed countries, resourceful and adequately equipped publishers in the private sector compete with each other in the preparation and presentation of educational material. This provides a built-in guarantee for high quality and economic price.

While some of these arguments may appear genuine, many of them are exaggerated or shorn of context. In developing countries, State intervention to provide adequate school textbooks is a real and present factor. Adequate supply of suitable textbooks for children at a price within their reach presupposes heavy investment in pedagogical research, experimentation and trial editions, curricular reform and development, and subsidy to reduce price. Few private publishers in the world today —and much less in the developing— have the requisite financial or academic resources to bring the whole generation of ideal educational literature within the reach of the common man. That is why educational authorities responsible for the transformation of the educational system to suit the national needs and aspirations have involved themselves, in one way or another in the fulfilment of this national need.

When a democratic state undertakes textbook publishing the intention is not to earn a profit or to wipe out private publishing, but to meet an immediate practical problem of national magnitude. As for quality the government undertakes periodical evaluation of school textbooks whenever and wherever necessary.

At the same time, frequent changes in textbooks are avoided to minimise waste. Revision of syllabus and textbooks is properly coordinated so as not to disturb the cycle— usually of five years—unnecessarily. In the present context, when the country is faced with perennial paper shortages and inflationary tendencies, it is doubtful if the multiplicity of textbooks or the entry of the private sector in the field will provide a better alternative.

However, efforts are being made to share the production and distribution of senior school textbooks with private publishers to some extent. Indeed university level textbooks are mostly in the hands of private sector. But improvement of the instructional materials through research and educational development at the junior school level is not likely to be shifted to the private sector in the near future.

Apart from subsidising school textbooks and supplementary readers the government provides funds or subsidies for the publication of research monographs and scholarly material to the extent that the private sector is unable to provide. Such publications are an essential requisite to expedite the developmental process in our country.

Besides education and research materials the public sector brings out informative literature on government policies and programmes. These publications are not restricted to statistics reporting about development and current problems of the

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country but extend to imparting to the citizens and to the world outside a genuine understanding about India —the land and the people, art and architecture, history and culture, philosophy and traditions, politics and economics, reformation and change.

A case in point is the Publication Division, the largest publishing wing of the public sector. The National Book Trust is another important public sector publishing house, set up with the dual objective of producing good reading material at low cost and presenting bookmindedness among the people.

Apart from organising book fairs and book seminars—both national and international—the trust has also served the needs of the student community by subsidising the publication of a large number of university-level books and supplementary reading material. Here mention should also be made of the valuable contribution made by the Sahitya Akademi to the promotion of creative literature in Indian languages. Apart from the excellent literary publications, the Akademi every year gives cash awards to outstanding authors of literary works in Indian languages.

The public sector publishing houses are thus engaged by the large in those ventures which fulfil a national need. They add volume and variety to the Indian publishing scene. Most of their publications are slow-moving by nature and many of them are not commercially viable, and would not in any case, have been undertaken by private sector publishers.

No less significant is the role of the government as promoter of books. Book publishing is a complex industry, the development of whose infrastructure depends upon government support in a variety of ways. With the responsibility of spreading literacy and education and with vast resources at its disposal the government endeavours to reach a larger number of readers without economic considerations. The growth of literacy and readership through government publications helps to create a market for general books and promotes a climate which also benefits the private sector.

The Government's role in expanding the book market is also evident when it makes large funds available for the purchase of library books. Indeed the whole edifice of the Indian book industry rests largely on institutional buying which means that the industry is funded by government sources.

It would thus be short-sighted to consider the public sector as a superior rival of the private sector in the field of books. Only about one-third of the book publishing activity in India is in the hands of some 1,000 public sector organisations or autonomous publishing units. With a complex structure and inter-dependence of a variety of professions, the book industry in India can develop only when both the public and private sectors play their rightful role. The programmes of mass literacy and non-formal education have resulted into the democratisation of the printed word which holds a bright future for publishing industry in India.

There is a growing market for Indian books at home and abroad. The scope is vast and there are many areas in the book field which can be explored and exploited by the private sector. A joint and cooperative effort is needed by the government autonomous bodies and the private sector for the provision of adequate reading material within the reach of all citizens.

Sterling contribution to Asiad 82

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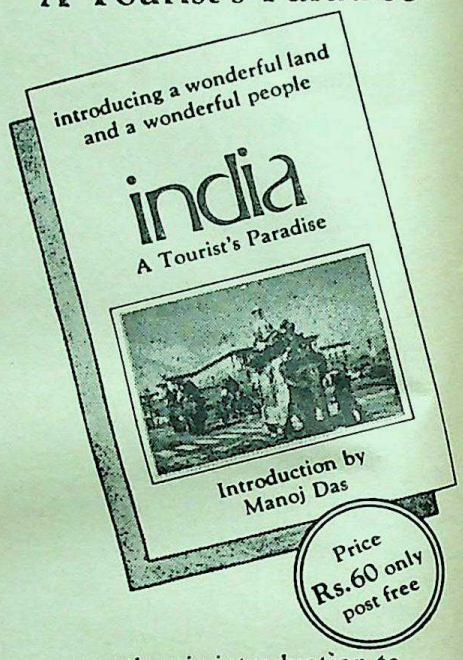

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Textbook Publishing: The Need of the Hour

R.S Mathur
D S. Bawa

Textbook publishing can be broadly categorised into three stages:

(i) Primary (ii) Secondary (iii) University Level.

A developing country like India, where the literacy rate is low, needs a major impetus towards educational publishing. It is a fact that for the major percentage of our population, literacy begins at school, and not at the home. This is regrettable, and the reading habit should be encouraged early in life by both the family and the government.

The publishing of texts at present in India suffers from drawbacks which could have serious repercussions on the future builders of the nation—the youth.

The publishing of primary and secondary school textbooks is almost wholy controlled by the State Government It is imperative to maintain high standards of publishing for the primary students. More often than not, it is their first contact with the printed word. The books need to be highly visual, creative and learner oriented. Secondary school textbooks are more subject-oriented. Care must be taken to ensure clarity of thought and expression, and a style of presentation that will stimulate the young reader's interest. The author's ability to communicate should be powerful, otherwise students are likely to carry the bias towards a particular subject for the rest of their lives.

In 1980-81 student enrolment in India had reached 149 million. The demand for texts was estimated at 1,908 million copies. This represents a market of a minimum of Rs 100.00 crores annually. If a part of this market could be given to the private publisher, it could encourage a healthy trend in academic standards. If the private publisher is able to rely on this steady source of revenue and sales, more academic projects could be financed.

The nationalisation of textbooks was initiated in U.P. in 1941-42. At present, except for some union territories, the nationalization of textbooks applies to all states. The government's recognition of the vital need for a standard curriculum over the country led to this step. However, the picture of educational publishing remains extremely drab. Sales are guaranteed with each new academic session, and without any competition to face, the books produced remain dull of content and lack lustre in production.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) was established on 1st September 1961. Its objectives are to assist and advise the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare in the implementation of programmes and policies in the field of education. It produces and publishes textbooks, students work books, teacher's guides, supplementary reading material, research monographs etc. It is also supposed to provide 'models' for texts which the state governments and private publishers are supposed to follow.

However, the nationalization of the books had not had a positive outcome for the following reasons:

1. The book production standards are below average
2. Lack of enough material for the student to refer to as a result of which he refers to cheap guides.
3. Lack of incentives to the private sector thus limiting the growth of textbook publishing, especially at the primary and secondary stage.

At the university level, private publishers, have carved a niche for themselves. The National Book Trust (established in 1970) helps by subsidising university level textbook (Low Cost University Editions). The Trust has subsidised nearly 500 titles since its inception. If the number of titles chosen for subsidies could be increased and more grants released by the Ministry of Education, it could usher in a brave new spirit in educational publishing.

The probable solution to the problem would be for the government and the private sector to play complementary roles to each other. The Government could control, set guidelines and provide incentives to publishers so that the quality of textbooks and subsequently, that of education could improve in India. The private sector could vastly improve the standards of book production (including information standards) by a careful selection of authors that possess the ability to write interesting and educational texts. The competition that is bound to occur between the private sector publishers in producing high quality textbooks at low prices, and *in time* for the examinations, will ultimately benefit the students; they will be able to obtain relevant reference material at reasonable rates within the country itself. The export of books, which has already struck, an optimistic note will increase, thus bringing in valuable foreign exchange for the country.

With the boost in educational publishing and the expansion of education, the growth of the literacy rate will not remain a distant dream for-

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Latest From Soviet Union

Social—Political—Economics, etc.

PHILOSOPHY AND THE ECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS OF CIVILISATION
Cloth, pp. 425, Rs. 9.50

The essays on philosophical aspects of the ecological problems offered here to the English-speaking reader deal, from various angles, with the content and substance of the ecological issues facing modern civilisation. A group of leading philosophers, members of the USSR Academy of Sciences, world-renowned scientists, the geographer, the meteorologist and Arctic explorer, the biochemist, all of whom are developing certain philosophical aspects of human ecology have taken together the essays, to give a broad idea of the Marxist-Leninist understanding of the ecological problem and of the various approaches to it and ways of tackling it. They are a convincing evidence of Soviet scientists' and scholars' concern for the fate of civilisation as a whole in the face of the ecological threat to the world, and of the work they are doing to alert the public to this menace and to help avert it.

T. Oizerman:
DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM AND THE HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY
Cloth, pp. 295, Rs. 8.00

The author, prominent Soviet philosopher, Corresponding Member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, elaborates the methodological problems of the history of philosophy and analyses various historical and philosophical concepts. He deals at length with the concepts of Kant, Fichte and Hegel. He gives a detailed exposition of the Marxist-Leninist theory of the historical and philosophical process and the dialectical advance of philosophical knowledge.

THE FUNDAMENTALS OF MARXIST-LENINIST PHILOSOPHY
Cloth, pp. 490, Rs. 11.00

The book gives a systematic exposition of the fundamental problems of dialectical and historical materialism. Considerable space is given to the explanation of the philosophical treatment of matter and consciousness, laws and categories of materialist dialectics and the nature and dialectics of the process of cognition. The essential categories and laws of historical materialism are thoroughly examined and a critical review of contemporary bourgeois philosophy and sociology has been provided.

This book can be used as a teaching aid in philosophy.

THE BASICS OF MARXIST-LENINIST THEORY
Cloth, pp. 350, Rs. 8.00

In a popular work such as this, it is, of course, impossible to discuss the full range of complex issues connected with the emergence and development of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism and their revolutionary effect upon mankind. The authors have, therefore, concentrated on the key questions of revolutionary theory and practice in the hope that this will lead the reader to consider these problems more closely for himself and to study the works of Marx, Engles and Lenin. Lenin is known to have warned against a superficial study of Marxism limited to merely learning its formulas, conclusions and slogans by heart. He called for "a study of communism" enriching one's mind with a knowledge of the entire human heritage and for the daily application of this knowledge in practical activity.

Nikolai Lebedev:
THE USSR IN WORLD POLITICS
Cloth, pp. 325, Rs. 7.50

This book, written by a prominent Soviet historian, contains a generalised analysis of major issues in the development of a new type of international relations. The central idea of the book is the consistent character of Soviet foreign policy from October 1917 up to the present day. Drawing on vast historical material, Prof. Lebedev reveals the increasing role of the Soviet state in world affairs. Ample space is given to the vital changes brought about in the world by the emergence of the socialist community.

S.N. Nadel:
CONTEMPORARY CAPITALISM AND THE MIDDLE CLASSES
Cloth, pp. 450, Rs. 6.50

The author of the book examines the most important changes in the structure of the middle classes in town and country, and among individual groups and sections of the population, which have occurred under the impact of the scientific and technological revolution. The book reveals social conflicts and antagonisms between the middle classes, on the one hand, and the bourgeois state and policies pursued by the ruling circles of the capitalist countries, on the other. The monograph also brings to light the apologetic substance of various bourgeois, reformist, and revisionist concepts of the middle classes.

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Andrei Ledovsky:
THE USSR, THE USA, AND THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTION IN CHINA
Cloth, pp. 260, Rs. 6.50

Against the background of complex events in China at the closing stage of its war with Japan and in the first post-war years, this book analyses the two diametrically opposite foreign policies pursued by the USSR and the USA with respect to China. It shows how Soviet diplomacy effectively countered US plans to penetrate into Manchuria and partition China, and its attempts at direct military intervention with a view to defeating the democratic forces led by the CPC and turning China into a semi-colony of the USA. The author examines the Soviet Government's main foreign-policy acts in 1945-1950, which contributed to the victory of the Chinese revolution and the formation of the People's Republic of China.

V.V Rymalov:
THE WORLD CAPITALIST ECONOMY
Cloth, pp. 330, Rs. 7.75

This book by a well-known Soviet economist, unlike many Western publication which focus attention solely on international market relations, views the contemporary world capitalist economy as a complex of production, exchange and distribution as the unity of productive forces and relations of production. The author outlines development prospects for individual countries and regions up to the end of the 20th century and provides a detailed analysis of the main directions of postwar economic development of capitalism and of foreign trade in industrial goods and its impact on the sectoral structure of production. Considerable attention is given to the raw-material problem and the increased role of the developing countries in the world-material balance.

A. Anikin:
THE YELLOW DEVIL
Cloth, pp. 250, Rs. 6.25

A. Anikin, a prominent Soviet scholar, analyses the history and the current problem of gold as a metal of money. Theoretically the book is based on Marxist-Leninist political economy, especially the theory of money.

The book explains how the gold standard operates, reveals its intrinsic economic meaning and links the question of gold to the crisis and evolution of the international monetary system of capitalism.

V. Agafonov:
MARXISM-LENINISM ON THE NON-CAPITALIST WAY
Cloth, pp. 240, Rs. 7.00

The book deals with the fundamentals of the Marxist-Leninist theory on non-capitalist path of development. The author analyses vital aspects of the non-capitalist advance to socialism accomplished by the Soviet republics of Central Asia, Kazakhstan, the peoples of the Far North and the Mongolian People's Republics, and problems of non-capitalist development facing the socialist-oriented newly-liberated countries.

CURRENT PROBLEMS OF CONTEMPORARY CAPITALISM
Paper, pp. 210, Rs. 3.75

The increasingly Acute Crisis in the 1970s; The Vital Problems of State Monopoly Capitalism; Inter Imperialist Contradictions at the Current Stage of the General Crisis of Capitalism (the 1970s); The Monetary Relations of Modern Capitalism in the 1970s.

E.V. Ilyenkov:
THE DIALECTICS OF THE ABSTRACT AND THE CONCRETE IN MARX'S CAPITAL
Cloth, pp. 305, Rs. 7.00

The author presents the integral Marxist concept of the dialectics and methodology of scientific knowledge drawn from Marx's Capital. Ilyenkow examines various non-Marxist philosophical schools (neo-positivism, existentialism, etc.), touching on a number of controversial issues—the problem of conceptualising tangible contradictions, the problem of the universal, and so on.

ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY OF THE OCEAN
Cloth, pp. 310, Rs. 7.50

Written by several outstanding Soviet scientists, this book dwells on the regularities involved in the geographic division of social labour, and the formation, development and functioning of special maritime socio-economic complexes; the nature of the trends in the location of the main branches of material production; regional peculiarities inherent in the mutual influence of social reproduction and the ocean; the influence of climate on the distribution of marine resources and their use.

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The Scandal That Is Education

Indian textbooks are in a scandalous mess. They are badly written; they are badly printed; they are printed on cheap paper; they are full of mistakes, both of facts and grammar. That much is common knowledge. But why? Some of the answers are equally well known. Genuinely qualified people do not write textbooks; they regard it below their dignity to write for schoolchildren or even undergraduates. Perhaps it does not even occur to them that if the foundations are weak as they are in our education system, the structure is bound to suffer. But even if such individuals were interested, they would not know how to go about the task of getting their books accepted by the authorities. That by itself is quite a racket in most states. Since a lot of money is involved in textbooks, a lot of palms have to be suitably greased. And, of course, since we are a poor country and want low-priced books, we have to make do with bad printing and cheap paper!

But behind it all lies the central fact that as a society we do not care enough about education. In the past at least we waxed eloquent over the need for high-quality education. Gradually we have stopped even doing that. Education has come to be treated as a big bore. Hardly anyone wants to discuss the subject. Certainly not the leaders, or the mass media including newspapers and magazines. Perhaps a sense of despair has seized the opinion makers; perhaps they have concluded that there is not much they can do in the matter. Inevitably, the education portfolio itself has got downgraded. Invariably, both at the Centre and the states it is held by those who do not possess much political weight, or are "in transit" waiting for more attractive portfolios. Currently in New Delhi it is held by a minister of state; apparently Mrs. Gandhi does not think that it is necessary for her to entrust it to a full-fledged minister with a little more than marginal interest and competence.

This raises the question: why does Indian society not care about education? The situation is paradoxical because at the same time every middle class parent is anxious to send his child to college. The degree is still a passport to job and marriage. Apparently most of us have come to accept that there is no necessary connection between the degree which we need and proper education for which we do not care. But is a deeper psychological factor at work? This question is seldom posed. It is obviously too complex to be sought to be answered in this column. Here we can do no more than suggest that like much else in our country the education system is not rooted in our tradition and like much else it suffers from the ill-effects of rootlessness.

From bad textbooks to the alien nature of the education system is a big jump. There is a risk in such a jump. It can lend support to the view that since we cannot change the system and since without such a change we cannot attend to specific problems, we need not even try. But that would be pushing logic to the absurd extreme. It is irresponsible to spurn piecemeal improvements and wait for a revolution. As it happens, a revolution is not around the corner—even in the field of education. We cannot fall back on the old system of elite education with or without emphasis on religion, we have to stick to the modern western system which provides for mass education. The choice before us is either to improve it to our advantage or to continue to drift to our great disadvantage.

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6TH WORLD BOOK FAIR

Mr. Narendra Kumar, The President said that, on behalf of the Trust, he had a meeting with the Chairman, Trade Fair Authority, and were able to obtain an assurance from him that the rentals would not be increased. This news was welcomed by all.

Shri O.P. Ghai said that, at the Advisory Committee Meeting, the following decisions were taken:

(i) On the suggestion of our members the layout had been made more compact and only three halls would be used to house the Fair. Also the walking distance to the Fair complex had been reduced. The three halls would be: Hall of Nations, for language publishers, Hall of Industries, for foreign publishers and imported books, Fair Pavilion, for Indian Publishers. After some discussion it was decided that we should represent strongly that the Fair Pavilion should be exclusively for Indian publications. This was agreed upon.

(ii) Again on the recommendations of our members, it was decided to plan the exit and entry in such a manner that once a visitor entered the complex he passed through all the stalls before existing.

(iii) Shri O.P. Ghai added that the Trust was still pursuing its idea of holding a Seminar on Book Binding and had not wholly approved our suggestion to change the subject to "Sale of Books and Rights from India." After some discussion it was decided to strongly urge the Trust to change the subject.

The President said that we should draw up a list of good foreign buyers who could be invited to speak. This would be far more beneficial to the Industry, and even more important, more suitable for the occasion.

(iv) After some discussion it was decided to organise a Seminar-Cum-Workshop on February 1 and 2, 1984. The President said that we should pursue the offer made by American/British publishers in this regard.

ALLOTMENT OF CONCESSIONAL PAPER FOR PUBLICATION OF TEXTBOOKS

At a meeting of the State Level Committee for Allotment of Concessional Paper for Publication of Textbooks, Union Territory of Delhi, we learnt that, after about a year, a settlement has been reached with the Paper Mills and the Ministry of Education, Government of India, have again started the scheme of allotment of paper for various educational purposes.

We hope that, in future, there will be substantial improvement in the supply of concessional paper.

MEETING WITH SHRI. V.N. GADGIL, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

Two meetings with Shri V.N. Gadgil, Minister of Communications, were held to discuss the recent hike in postal rates. Salient points of our memorandum were explained to him and he assured our Members that he would look into the matter.

The meetings were attended by Shri Narendra Kumar, Shri O.P. Ghai and Shri D.N. Malhotra.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Hony. General Secretary informed the members that the Annual General Meeting will be held in August, 1983. The Conference dates would be fixed after obtaining the Chief Guest's preference.

IMPORT POLICY.

Shri D.N. Malhotra said that a meeting of the sub-committee was held and a letter had been sent to the Ministry of Education expressing our surprise that our suggestions were invited religiously every year but never implemented. He said that he was not very hopeful, considering our past experience, and suggested that we should take up the matter directly with the Ministry of Commerce. This was agreed upon.

It was also decided to co-opt Shri Mohan Primlani on the Sub-Committee on Import Policy.

6TH WORLD BOOK FAIR, NEW DELHI, 1984

The 6th World Book Fair, New Delhi, will be held from 4th to 14th February 1984.

As you are aware the National Book Trust was planning to increase the rentals on the plea that the Trade Fair Authority had increased the rates. Your President, Shri Narendra Kumar, agreed to meet the Chairman, Trade Fair Authority, on behalf of the Trust to discuss the question of rentals. Members will be happy to know that at the meeting Mr. Narendra Kumar was able to obtain an assurance from the Chairman, Trade Fair Authority, that status quo would be maintained. Hopefully now the Trust will charge the same rentals as the 5th World Book Fair, which were:

Single Stand	Rs. 600
Large Stand	Rs. 1200
Single Stall	Rs. 3500
Double Stall	Rs. 5300
Triple Stall	Rs. 7500

Members are requested to send us their suggestions for improvement of the facilities and conduct of the Fair, so that we can take them up with the National Book Trust during the Advisory Committee Meetings.

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NEWS & EVENTS

INDIAN HEADS UNESCO DIVISION

An Indian has been selected to head the *prestigious printing and publication division* of the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in Paris.

He is Mr M.J. Singh, currently Director of Printing in the Ministry of Works and Housing here.

Mr. Singh, who was selected from a worldwide field of 35 candidates, will take up his appointment later this month.

He will be responsible for controlling UNESCO's annual $90 million budget on printing and publications.

HINDI POET GETS YUGOSLAV AWARD

A noted Hindi litterateur, Sachindanand Hirananda Vatsyayan, is the recipient of the 1983 "Golden Wreath", a Yugoslav international annual award for poetry.

Mr Vatsyayan, recipient of many national honours including the Sahitya Akademi award for poetry, will receive the award in August, 1983.

MARATHI BOOK SHOW

An exhibition of Marathi books was held on May 28 to mark the birth centenary of the great patriot Veer Sawarkar and the outstanding litterateur Mama Warekar.

Several books written by Veer Sawarkar and B.V. Warekar which cover a wide range of subjects and varied forms of literature were on display. A rare photograph of Veer Sawarkar was also exhibited.

THREE NEW TECHNICAL COLLEGES FOR MP

One engineering college and three polytechnics will start functioning from the next academic session in Madhya Pradesh as part of the efforts for the expansion of technical education in the state.

These institutions are being established in remote, backward and predominantly tribal areas of the state.

The engineering college is being established at Jagdalpur in Bastar district and the polytechnics are being established at Jhabua, Ambikapur and Waidhan.

HIDAYATULLAH'S BOOK WINS ACCLAIM

A number of leading Urdu litterateurs praised the recently published book of the vice-president, Mr M. Hidayatullah, "Taqreer-O-Tabeer," at a function held at the Ghalib academy.

The book, which is the compilation of the impressions and experiences of the vice-president, was highly acclaimed by various speakers, including the Aligarh Muslim University vice-chancellor, Mr Syed Hamid, the Zakir Hussain Institute of Islamic Studies director, Prof. Ziaul Hasan Faruqui, Prof. Gopi Chand Narang and Mr Malik Ram.

ATTENTION PUBLISHERS/ AUTHORS

Central Hindi Directorate, Ministry of Eduction and Culture is implementing a scheme of publication of popular books in Hindi in collaboration with publishers with a view to disseminating and inculcating scientific knowledge in the little explored fields of humanities, sciences, technology, and medicine etc. Under this scheme, publishers are encouraged to bring out books in various disciplines in Hindi in popular style at low cost. Proposals for original books as well as translations are accepted. Original writing in Hindi on scientific and technical subjects in popular style will be given preference. *Poetry, fiction, research work, biography, religious books, etc. are not accepted.* Scientific and technical terminology evolved

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by the Commission for Scientific and technical Terminology, Ministry of Education is to be used invariably both in original writings as well as in translations. The scheme envisages that the publishers will bring out a minimum edition of 3000 copies out of which one-third of the copies will be purchased by the Directorate at a usual trade discount of 25 per cent. The collaborating publishers roughly recover their cost of production of 3000 copies to the extent of 50 to 60 per cent. The price of the books published under the scheme will be fixed by the Directorate in accordance with the formula and rates laid down by the government. Authors may submit complete manuscripts but they will have to make their own publishing arrangements or find some publisher. Last date for supply of copy of scheme is 30-6-83. Proposals for original books and translations will be accepted upto 30-8-83 and books have to be published within the time-limit prescribed by the Directorate.

For details of the scheme, please write to Director, Central Hindi Directorate, Ministry of Education and Culture, West Block VII, R.K. Puram, New Delhi.

YEAR BOOK RELEASED

The Year Book 1983 of Competition Success Review was released by Mr N.R. Chandran, General Manager, Press Trust of India, at a function. Releasing the book, Mr Chandran observed that it was a laudable attempt. He was of the view that it could be a bible for young men and women who want to achieve success in life.

It is one volume encyclopedia for every home and office an essential book of knowledge for today's youth. With facts and figures, dates and data, people and places, the 864-page volume contains virtually all the facts one needs to know.

According to the publishers, 1983 is essentially the year of the seventh non-aligned summit. And that is why the seventh non-aligned summit gets special coverage as the cover story in the Year Book.

SANSKRIT CENTRE IN JAIPUR

The National Institute of Sanskrit of the Union Government will set up a Central Vidyapeeth at Jaipur. It will start functioning from July 18.

Disclosing this Mr Ram Karan Sharma, director of the Institute, said the vidyapeeth would work for the collection, preservation, research and publication of Sanskrit transcripts and inscriptions scattered all over the state.

2 NEW GOVT. COLLEGES TO BE OPENED

Two new Government colleges will be opened during this academic session in Haryana. Disclosing this the State Minister for Education, Mr Jagdish Nehra, said one college would be located at Gurgaon and the other at Panchkula.

This would raise the total number of colleges in the State to 128.

NEW NCERT CHIEF

Dr P.L. Malhotra, Dean of Colleges, University of Delhi, has been appointed Director, National Council of Educational Research and Training.

Dr Malhotra, 46, has been a member of various working groups appointed by the NCERT between 1975-77 for the development of new courses for the 10 plus 2. He has also been member of the establishment committee of the NCERT.

A member of the Indo-US sub-commission on education and culture, Dr Malhotra was the founder principal of the College of Vocational Studies.

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INDIA'S PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIRS

We learn that the National Book Trust will be organising an Exhibit of Indian Books at the following International Book Fairs:

(a) International Book Fair Moscow, 6-12 September, 1983
(b) Frankfurt Book Fair, 12-17 October, 1983
(c) International Book Fair Belgrade, 27 October to 2 November, 1983
(d) 15th Singapore Festival of Books and Book Fair, September 1983
(e) Ghana Book Fair, Accra, November, 1983
(f) 2nd Middle East Book Fair, Bahrain, December, 1983
(g) Manila Book Fair, January/February, 1984
(h) Cairo International Book Fair, January/February, 1984
(i) London Book Fair, April 1984
(j) American Booksellers Association Convention and Trade Exhibit, June 1984

Special exhibitions of Indian Books will also be organised in Bangladesh, Burma and Ceylon.

Instructions for submission of books will be issued by the Trust separately.

A DELEGATION OF INDIAN PUBLISHERS WENT TO U.K., U.S.A., CANADA AND MEXICO.

(On the eve of departure at the airport for U K., from left to right Mr. O.P· Ghai, Mr. Narandera Kumar and Mr. A. Bannerjee)

A delegation of four members consisting of Mr. Narendra Kumar, Mg. Director Vikas Publishing House (P) Ltd, Mr. O.P. Ghai Chairman, Sterling Publishers (P) Ltd, Mr. N.R. (Balan) Subramanian, Mg. Director, Tata McGraw Hill Publishing Co. Ltd, and Mr. A. Bane·jee, Deputy Secretary of Capexil, went to U.K., U.S A. Canada and Mexico.

It aimed at exploring the market for export sale of copyright and joint publishing ventures to give boost to Indian publishing Industry.

The delegation was sponsored with the active support and assistance of the International Trade Centre, Geneva & by the Book Division of Capexil.

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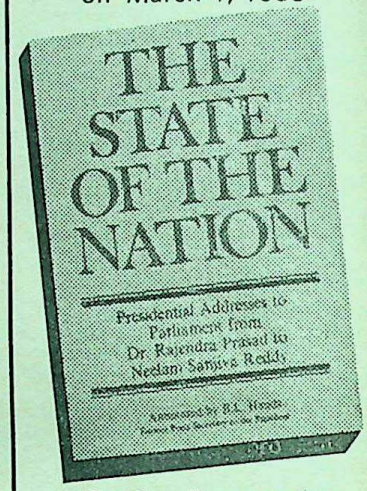

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BOOK REVIEWS

CONDITIONS OF WORK AND QUALITY OF WORKING LIFE— A Directory of Institutions, Edited by Mrs L. Stoddart, I.L.O., Geneva, 1981, Price: 35 Swiss Francs

The directory lists institutions in all regions of the world, including government agencies, employers' organisations, trade unions, research institutions and university departments working in the field of conditions of work and quality of working life. Up-to-date information on staff, funding, activities, training programmes, current research projects, meetings and publications is provided. The contents are arranged by country, and acronym and personal name indexes are provided. The volume has been produced from the data base of the newly established ILO Clearing-house for the Dissemination of Information on Conditions of Work.

PRINCIPLES OF MARKETING by C.N. Sontakki and R.G. Deshpande, Kalyani Publishers, 1983, Rs 16

Today, the complicated wheels of industry are being moved and propelled because of the eternal motive-power of satisfying the needs. In other words, the process of production is set in motion and action to serve ones ultimate objective. That is, to satisfy the countless needs and desires of the human race. Production of goods and services, has no meaning unless the goods and services are exchanged profitably for money or money's worth. This involves the movement of goods from the manufacturers, farmers and others who create them, to consumers or ultimate users. This journey of goods is not a child's play nor even 'Sunday Gardening'. It involves certain definite functions and processes which are highly complicated and specialized. Thus, the physical movement of goods and transfer of title to the goods, require millions of people such as retailers, wholesalers, advertisers, salesmen, agent-middlemen and many others. All these activities which are involved in the physicial transfer and owership of goods, form the part and heart of marketing. The book will not only be useful for the students but also to businessmen.

FINANCE OF FOREIGN TRADE & FOREIGN EXCHANGE by C. Jeevanandam, Sultan Chand and Sons, 1983, Rs 15

Foreign Exchange has been considered a difficult subject by the candidates for the IIB Examinations. They have more reason to feel so now because of lack of books which help them to satisfy expectations of the examiners. Few excellent books available in India are now outdated and they do not deal comprehensively with current practices and regulations. The present book is an attempt to provide the examinees with a comprehensive text with the needed practical bias, up-to-date with current regulations governing foreign exchange business.

The book is prepared under the tutorial system with the twin objectives of presenting a lucid study of the subject and guiding the students with proper approach to the examination. But instead of merely discussing the past questions, the entire syllabus prescribed has been comprehensively dealt with under appropriate chapters and sections.

A special feature of the book is the method of dealing with each topic. A topic is discussed taking all aspects into account, viz., the theoretical concepts, practical problems and exchange control regulations. Thus the exchange control regulations, are given under relevant chapters. This would facilitate better understanding of the implications of the regulations. With these features it is hoped, the book would eminently suit the requirements of the candidates.

A CONCISE HISTORY OF THE INDIAN ECONOMY 1750-1950 by Dhires Bhattacharyya, Prentice Hall of India Private Ltd., 1979, Rs 29

A brief but connected account of the important economic changes that accompanied the establishment of British supremacy in India will be available in this book. While the book leaves out inessential details of purely historical interest, it applies the tools of economic analysis for the illumination of the course of history during the two hundred years which it seeks to study comprehensively. The emphasis in this book is not on the chronology of events, but on the economic significance of the changes in situation and policy that began to occur in India after the middle years of the eighteenth century. Drawing materials from such early sources as R.C.

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Dutt's "Economic History of India" and the numerous official commissions and Committees that reported during this period, the book presents a unified view of the course followed by the Indian economy during the period of British rule and sums up the consequences of this phase of Imperialism in terms of changes in land rights, in employment opportunities and in per capita incomes.

The book is suitable for recommendations to B.A. & M.A. classes in Indian Universities as background material for the study of current Indian economic problems.

RURAL ECONOMICS (3rd Edition) by I.C. Dhingra, Sultan Chand & Sons, 1983, Rs 20

This thoroughly revised edition incorporates all the recent changes in the Indian rural economy. As the readers will find author's effort in this edition has been to present a more concise but complete picture of the rural scene and to make the book more relevant for the bankmen. As a result, space has been found within the existing framework to add new subject-matter by summarising discussion relating to less important subjects. The revised edition of 'Rural Economics' has been prepared with this purpose in view. Written in a very simple language and easy-to-understand style, the book introduces the reader to the rural economy and acquaints him with the various problems being faced by this segment of the economy. With the help of the latest available facts and figures and analysis of the various policy formulations in the agricultural sector, the complexities of the situation are brought out in a simple manner so as to make it comprehensible to those readers who are entirely new to the subject.

A new feature of the present edition is the addition of 'POINTS TO REMEMBER' at the end of each chapter. These would be found highly useful by those examinees who run short of time and want to have a glance at the eleventh hour. Of course, all other readers will find that this exercise helps in quick comprehesion of the subject-matter.

RATHNAM'S COST AND MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING: Problems and Solutions by P.V. Rathnam, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1983, Rs 40

The comprehensive materials in this book has been based on the author's practical experience in the material issue prices, incentive payments to labourers, uniform costing, budgets and budgetary control, marginal costing, standard costing and reconciliation of cost and financial accounts.

The problems have been arranged in a logical sequence and this book has wide coverage containing over 300 problems of all types taken from the examinations conducted by the various Indian universities. Stress has been laid on the application of formulas and wherever necessary the formula has also been indicated. Sufficient working notes have also been given below the solutions.

The book will be of great value to the students of B. Com., B. Com. (Hons) and M. Com. of various Indian universities.

THEORY AND PRACTICE OF URBAN LAND VALUES IN INDIA by M.N. Dange, N.M. Tripathi (P) Ltd., 1983, Rs 50

The book is the first of its kind on the urban land values in India. The author has explained the concepts of urban land values and has furnished important data for cities like Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and Bangalore. The phenomenon of urban land values for the past 20 years in India along with relevant data, has been explained. Important judgements of the Supreme Court, various High Courts, Income-Tax Tribunals have been cited, which affect urban land values. Techniques of arriving at the judgements of urban land values in recent times have been explained, focus is on property markets in various metropolitan areas.

The book will be useful to Architects, Engineers, Valuers, Advocates, Chartered Accountants and all Professionals concerned with urban land values.

TOWN PLANNING (5th Edition) by S.C. Rangawala, Charotar Publishing House, 1983, Rs 25

The text-matter of this Fifth Edition has been extensively revised and updated to bring it into line with current thought and practice of the subject.

The object in the preparation of this book is to help the students to grasp the basic and up-to-date principles of Town Planning.

The book contains 35 self-explanatory and neat diagrams and more than 250 questions at the end of each chapter.

The subject-matter is expressed in a simple language and practical manner. The treatment is clear and methodical, as well as interesting and easy to follow.

The book in the present form will prove to be extremely useful to Engineering students preparing for the Degree Examinations in Civil Engineering of almost all the Indian Universities, Diploma Examinations conducted by various Technical Boards, Certificate Courses and also for the U.P.S.C. and A.M.I.E. Examinations.

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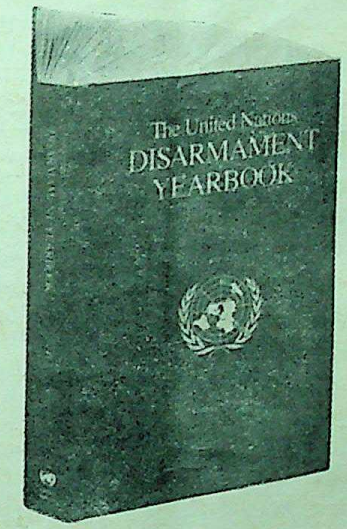

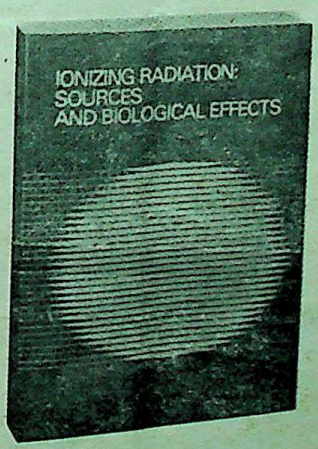

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Selling Paperbacks in the 'Open Market'

British and U.S. houses are more at loggerheads than ever

*W. Gordon Graham**

Old quarrels surface in hard times. This could be a philosophic explanation of the current flare-up of mutual unhappiness between U.S. and British paperback publishers over infringements of territorial rights in export markets, a practice that has been going on in various ways for more than 30 years.

Those in the less anxious segments of international book marketing probably need to be reminded that there are often four editions of a successful U.S. or British trade title—a hardback and paperback edition in each country—and that the export markets reserved for each edition are agreed between the author and the particular publisher.

Some territories are designated in the contracts as "open," which means that all editions can be sold there in free competition. There may also be agreement on the part of paperback publishers that their editions will not come out until the hardback editions have been on the market for a specified time.

Very seldom are all editions published simultaneously. This has tempted some jobbers to ship editions into territories for which the publishers have not acquired rights. Such "booklegging" is mainly a paperback phenomenon, since there is seldom much gain in scooping hardback markets, the principal opportunities being in countries of low purchasing power.

All paperback publishers are believed, although there is no absolute proof that they are unfailingly punctilious, to reject orders from territories for which they have no rights. Bookleggers are generally a partnership of import agents and export jobbers, orders from whom are treated by the publishers as domestic sales.

Booklegging started in the late 1940s. That was also the time when the British Traditional Market Agreement was created. This was a protocol on the part of all British publishers, tacitly accepted by most American publishers, to reserve for the British, whether buying or selling rights, a list of territories corresponding roughly to the historical British Empire. This agreement was dismantled by a Consent Decree in 1976, settling an anti-trust case brought by the Justice Department against a number of U.S. publishers, which the department indicated was aimed at the British publishers. Territories must now be negotiated individually for each title.

The Consent Decree has become, according to the British, a kind of smokescreen behind which bookleggers have intensified their activities. The decree, written unavoidably in legalese, does make it clear that territorial rights can still be legally granted, provided they are individually negotiated.

The British paperbackers are the principal accusers and losers in the quarrel. The British Publishers Association has asked the Association of American Publishers to do something, and the AAP is thinking about it. The British are much more export-dependent than the Americans, and when the infringing title is one of U.S. origin, for which the British paperbacker has paid a large advance, the indignation of the British house reflects its damaged pocket even more than its sense of fair play. U.S. paperback houses claim that occasional direct shipments into territories for which they do not have rights are inadvertent, and that they cannot control the ultimate destination of books sold to U.S. jobbers. The British believe that some U.S. paperback houses are too passive toward the bookleggers' activities.

India is a frequent bone of contention. There is a historically supportable suspicion that booklegging started in the city of Bombay. In the days when few U.S. publishers went abroad, the British were habitual travelers, having long had enterprises or agents in the countries of the Empire. Thus, in the late 1940s and early 1950s, there was only one representative of a U S. publishing house resident in Bombay. (He happened to be the writer of this article, who thus was by chance a direct observer of these events.) The only regular U.S. visitor

*Graham is president of Butterworth & Co., a London publisher, and a keen observer of the international publishing scene.

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was Paul Feffer, who represented a large segment of the U.S. publishing industry. The paperback explosion was at the eruptive stage in the U.S. and was simmering in the U.K. U.S. paperback publishers were preoccupied almost totally with their domestic market, and British paperback publishers accepted the undertaking from their long-established hardcover colleagues that the market in India belonged to them, a supposition they did not actually check on the ground.

At least one alert U.S. paperback publisher, the late Kurt Enoch, who established the New American Library and was a founder member of U.S. paperback publishing and an experienced international traveler, came to Bombay and saw an untapped market. He appointed an agent called India Book House, to trade in NAL editions of which the Commonwealth rights had not been sold.

The NAL agency was not India Book House's only, nor, indeed, its main business. This company had been founded by a Mr. Mirchandani who, if memory serves, had previously been in the silk business. The company was also in zip fasteners, ball point pens, Hindi comics and the like. It had been encouraged to go into paperback wholesaling by an ebullient visitor from New York by the name of Bernie Edson. Edson and the Mirchandanis together spread the U.S. paperback throughout India, meeting the reading desires of hundreds of thousands of Indians. India wanted books. They had them. They had signed no agreements about markets.

The British appear to have been slow to realize what was happening. This was probably because the British travelers were mostly senior executives of hardback houses. One who did discover it with indignation bordering on fury was Billy (later Sir William) Collins, who was both a hardbacker and, under the Fontana imprint, a paperbacker. One of Billy's favourite titles was "Born Free," the story of the pet lion in Kenya. One year, on his customary stopover in Bombay en route to Australia, Billy found the U.S. paperback edition of "Born Free" staring insolently at him from a Bombay bookstall. Eliciting the source of this contraband from the bookstall owner, he stormed into the offices of India Book House. Mirchandani was confused by Billy's highfalutin talk about copyrights and infringements and referred him to Bernie Edson.

Billy traveled eastward from Australia, the story goes, duly manifested himself in Edson's 42nd Street office, and told Edson he was going to sue him and close down his operation in India. Bernie, in picturesque Manhattan English showed him the door. That can be identified symbolically, if not actually as the moment when the battle lines over paperback infringements were drawn and it was about 20 years ago.

Another British paperbacker who traveled the Bombay-Manhattan circuit remembers finding the American edition of Joseph Heller's "Catch-22" in the Bombay bookstalls, plus titles by Leon Uris, James Michener, Robert Ruark, Mickey Spillane and other members of the pantheon of U.S. bestsellerdom—to many of which the visitor had bought the rights for India, along with the rest of the then sacrosanct British Traditional Market. Pat Newman had reason to be even more indignant than Billy Collins. Corgi, the British paperback house that Pat was running, was owned by Bantam. Bantam had appointed as their official distributors to India . . . Bernie Edson and India Book House.

Newman found himself caught between his parent company, whose editions infringed territorial rights purchased by their own subsidiary, and British hardback publishers, who took Corgi's money for territories to which they could not guarantee delivery. Nobody worried too much about Pat except Pat, and the fact that he retired this year from the chairmanship of Corgi, leaving a reasonably flourishing publishing house, is no doubt due more to his success in the U.K. than in the export markets.

During the '60s and '70s the Edson/Mirchandani recipe spread to other entrepreneurs and other territories, mostly to Asia. The Caribbean (another once-British preserve) received the benison of the U.S. paperback more for the benefit of the U.S. tourist than the local populace. Gradually, the only markets left secure to the British paperbackers for enforcement of their copyrights were Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, where there were tightly structured book trades and where the threat of legal action under copyright laws was an effective deterrent. Elsewhere the markets outside of North America and the U.K. have tended to become anarchic.

The position today, according to one leading British paperback publisher, is that both U.S. and British puplishers "enter into contracts knowing full well that they are unlikely to be honored and with no real intention of trying to adhere to the market restrictions contained in the agreements." Although this source agrees that some British books find their way into American markets, notably the Philippines, it also maintains that "during the last five to 10 years, U.S. paperback publishers . . . have started sending representatives to U.K. market areas where they blatantly solicit orders for direct supply of books for which they have no territorial right."

One answer devised by British paperbackers was the "early export edition." They obtained agreement from the authors to produce export editions not to be sold in the U.K.

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till the hardback editions had their run. U.S. paperbackers also produce "early open market" editions, which tend, however, to wander into closed markets, particularly where piracy—the common enemy of all publishers—is a threat.

The current confrontation can be seen as an acute stage of a long-simmering dispute. The Consent Decree appears to have confused the issue, and the massive economic troubles of both U.S. and British paperback publishers in their home markets have made infringements less tolerable.

Now both associations, and some of their members, are suddenly talking to their lawyers. Any who go to law now will have to explain to themselves why they did not do it long ago. The law has not changed. The trouble is that the wounds are deeper.

There is a sizable body of opinion that feels that the law is not going to help. Either the existing lawful territorial arrangements have to be enforced in practice, or else a conscious decision must be taken to let market forces loose. The opponents of booklegging see it as a recipe for anarchy: glutted markets, poor credit, heavy returns and an encouragement to piracy.

There is, of course, a radical solution: the abandonment of the idea of territorial rights, which have always been a tenuous thing both in practice and in law. They worked once in a world less populated with books and with people, and where the conventions of international trade respected exclusivity. If every publisher acquired world rights from authors' agents, the problem would disappear. Authors' agents may well feel, however, that they serve their author better by having competent national distribution by American houses in the U.S. and by British houses in the U.K, and see the export trade as a marginal problem. The larger British paperback houses, such as Penguin, seem to have adopted the world-rights-or-nothing position, but the smaller British houses probably depend too much on the U.K. rights of American titles to contemplate that solution quite comfortably.

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THE FUTURE OF THE BOOK

*By Narendra Kumar**

The future of the book is a hotly debated subject today in the industrially developed countries of the west, and it has aroused such interest and speculation that UNESCO recently commissioned a report on it. Generally, it is agreed that modern technology is challenging both the form and function of the book, and its role as the principal instrument for transmitting knowledge and ideas.

It is ironic that advances in the very technology that led to the phenomenal growth of publishing—i.e., printing—are now threatening it with oblivion, and it is quite sobering to think that the book might soon become as obsolete as the quill.

Dreary Prospect

Although the mind balks at the thought of a world without books and at the displacement of the printed page by a screen, this situation is fast becoming a reality in many educational and information retrieval systems. For example, the annual sales of scientific and technical books in the U.S. have dropped by an estimated 30 per cent between 1972 and 1980, after allowing for inflation. This is despite the fact that the use of bibliographic data bases in the same subjects is increasing by 20 to 30 per cent per year.

Two hi-tech facilities are responsible, in the main, for this situation: photographic reproduction of previously printed material, and the use of word-processors for churning out information of a non-creative nature for rapid and inexpensive dispersal. The uncontrolled use of photo-copiers in educational institutions in the U.S., for instance, is one of the causes for the publishing industry being badly hit in that country. In a matter of minutes, dozens of copies of an entire book can be made available to students, virtually free of cost, making heavily-priced textbooks redundant. The impact of this on copyright and piracy—of books as well as of ideas—is causing reverberations throughout the academic and publishing community. Of equal significance is the growth of satellite transmission and wide-band digital communication, two competitors that western publishers will have to contend with in the near future.

There was an obituary advertisement in a recent issue of *Publishers Weekly* which announced that the publishing industry had died in sleep for want of original and fast moving books, mourned by "practically no one."

Indeed, not only publishers but booksellers as well view the situation with increasing alarm. They will have to fight for survival either by consolidating their position in a shrinking book market or by reaching out into new fields of information.

However, all this is a quite remote prospect in most third world countries, many of which are conscientiously coaxing the book industry into maturity, rather than mourning its demise. In India, at least, the book is, and will continue to be for some time, the most effective and efficient means of communication. While India produces a relatively small percentage of the world's books, the number of titles produced each year is fairly substantial.

But, the book trade as a whole needs a shot in the arm. As in most of the developing countries, the future of the book is very much a question relating to its status threatened not so much by the computer, the video and the microchip, as by inadequate and insufficient inputs in terms of finance, state support, auxiliary facilities, availability of raw material, marketing and distribution and, of course, of buying power. The future of the book here hangs in a delicate balance not because it has been overtaken by time and technology, but because it is still struggling to flower.

*Managing Director, Vikas Publishing House (P) Ltd.

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There is no need to dwell on the colonial legacy in publishing and on the part played by historical development. What concerns us is the current state of publishing and the book trade.

Although the depression in publishing is worldwide, some of its problems are unique to India. The most important lies in the distinction between the public and private sectors, and the role played by each in the publication and distribution of books. It is an established fact that publishing has not been successful in any country of the world, unless the government takes active steps to support it. But in India, the backbone of the industry, educational publishing is wholly state controlled.

While low-priced texts are, no doubt, essential, government activity should be restricted to marketing in rural areas, where no commercial publisher would find it viable to operate. It should also be stressed that while government publications have the virtue of being low-priced they are markedly deficient in editorial input, presentation and, what is most distressing, frequently present information with a political bias. All this results in books that are clearly unappealing, and with their early years clouded by the memory of such books, many children simply never develop the habit of reading.

The point can be better illustrated by taking the instance of Attenborough's *Gandhi* which has generated a wave of admiration and reverence among a generation of children whose impressions of the Mahatma are based entirely on the episodes (from the *Harijan* or *My Experiments with Truth*) reproduced in their school-books. All that these excerpts did was to paint the man in a dull, impersonal fashion . . . And what a resurgence, what a revival, has now come about for the Mahatma who has suddenly started looming as a living, animate colossus on the horizons of all the post-independence generations in India (to say nothing of the film's impact on the outside world).

It is therefore not surprising that young students, surrounded by mounds of textbooks, which are more often than not as unattractive as they are impersonal, develop a dislike for reading *per se*. Thus while literacy continues to increase, only a handful among the literates can be counted as readers.

The role that state agencies have to play is at the infrastructural levels, at redefining ultimate objectives and alternative strategies. The actual production, promotion and distribution of books should be assigned to the private sector.

The second area in which state effort should be directed is in the expansion of libraries. Library facilities are woefully inadequate at the national level, and what is needed is a considerable increase in medium-sized libraries affiliated to, say, community centres. Even in highly developed countries where people can and do buy substantial number of books, the number of libraries is extremely large. In the Soviet Union in 1976, there were 3,60,000 libraries, i.e., one library for every one thousand or less of the population.

Obvious Need

The need for a library movement in a large country like ours, with a huge population and limited resources is obvious.

Librarians, too, can play a significant role in helping to create an awareness of books and in inculcating the reading habit. It becomes necessary, then, to plan a scheme whereby librarians are periodically given refresher courses.

A recent experiment in innovative marketing conducted in Maharashtra merits recounting. A mobile book-selling van travelled through several villages and towns in the state, selling Rs 8 lakhs worth of books in a fortnight!

The question of the future of the book in India thus takes on an urgency that is somewhat different from the developed world's preoccupation with the inroads made by electronic media. Our energies must be directed towards providing books for all, to guard against finding ourselves in a situation where we have neither printed word nor word-processor.

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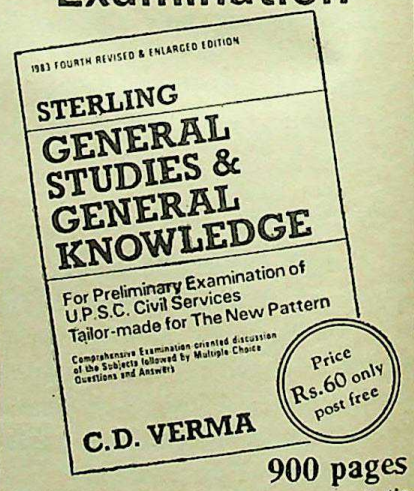

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JNANPITH AWARD FOR AMRITA PRITAM

The well-known novelist, poetess and a prolific writer, Smt. Amrita Pritam was awarded the prestigious Bharatiya Jnanpith literary award for 1981 for her outstanding literary achievements, on Saturday, 16th April 1983 by the President of India, Giani Zail Singh at a resplendent ceremony held at Asiad Centre, New Delhi.A cheque for Rs. 1,50,000 was presented to her along with a citation plaque, and the bronze-cast statue of 'VACHDEVI', the award symbol.

Amrita Pritam is the first Punjabi writer and the second woman to get the coveted honour.

Speech delivered by
Mrs Amrita Pritam

Why do I write ?

According to me it is a journey of reaching me beyond me. The journey of reaching that 'me' in which firstly the knowledge of 'myself', than of 'you' and then of 'that' is stored: this means the entire world.

This means that the place where the pain of others and of still others and of those lying farther away becomes yours. This is why the intensity of feeling becomes a natural state of myself, as natural as fragrance is to a flower.

This is the place where the imagination lying beyond the bounds of reality becomes a part of reality itself.

This is the place again—the point—where the writer's thinking becomes the reader's thinking and what was till then the reader's reality, his ultimate reality, ceases to be so. The truth is that the impossible comes within the reach of the possible.

It is the right thing for the known reality of the reader's life to confront his imagined reality. But the confrontation leads to the stirring in him of many questions which ought to be awakened. To portray the reality which is and also the one which ought to be is for me, the object of the writer's pen.

In olden days a sheet of blank paper, a pen and an inkpot used to be kept in the room where a woman was about to deliver a child. An elderly person of the family would stand beside the blank sheet of paper and pray: 'O Goddess of Learning, when you visit the room at the time of the birth, do write on it a good fate for the child !'

What an evidence of man's faith, his faith in the letters inscribed on paper !

This feeling of respect for the written letter, this faith, symbolised the ancient relationship between the writer and the reader.

President Giani Zail Singh presenting the Bharatiya Jnanpith Award to Mrs. Amrita Pritam

According to me a writer becomes truly a writer when, like the Goddess of Learning, he acquires the power to write the fate of human minds.

There is a story popular among the aborigines of Australia that in the ancient times the sky used to be very low, so low that the human beings of the earth could not walk with their heads held straight. Darkness prevailed over the earth. The people had to grope in the dark in search of roots and plants that could be eaten. Then the birds

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thought that if they could push the sky up, the people would be able to walk straight on the earth.

And it is said that the birds collected long straws and began to push the sky up with all the strength they had. The sky did go up and the people who formerly crawled started walking straight with their heads held high. The sun hiding behind the sky, now came out and lit the whole earth.

This story, though of olden days, is true of all times and of all climes —of course having its relevance in its own way. The human beings with the soul of those birds do find out the sunlight by pushing their sky up from above the dark jungles of human relationships.

And I think, wherever some light is found in any society or politics, it is due to those handful of people who have made an effort to push their sky up wherever they could.

Likewise, in the world of writing, there are indeed some writers with the soul of birds. Their pens are like those straws, on the strength of which they push the sky up and help men to hold their heads high.

All that I can say about my own pen is that it has collaborated with those few pens of the world which believe in keeping the sky high.

All good literature of the world is the evidence of the ability of such writers to keep the sky high. But in the world in general when a layman pushes the sky up with his own hands, the story of that effort remains unknown.

I would like to mention an incident here. Suddenly one day a stranger came to see me. This was after he had heard of this Bharatiya Jnanpith Award. That stranger had tears in his eyes and a little soil in his hand. He said just this much: 'This soil I am carrying belongs to the place of your birth Gujaranwala...' I kept staring with tearful eyes.

How great is the virtue of soil! Who will understand the smallness, in comparison to this, of the religion whose foundation is used to break up the world. The beauty of the human heart and the fragrance of the human mind are the virtues of the soil. No religion has so far recognised its soul.

This fertile virtue of the soil is the virtue which characterises good human beings and good writers and litterateurs.

Winning an award can never be the aim of a writer. He has only one aim, that of reaching the human heart. But if any award comes to him as a means to reach his aim, it is then of some importance, in fact, of great importance.

Each pen has a limited area of the language around it, particularly in India. Here, many languages have the thoughts they contain distributed in fragmented areas. The greatness of the Bharatiya Jnanpith is that it connects many small rivers of languages with a huge river, the composite river of Indian arts and thought.

For any writer economic independence is a big problem. From this point of view too the importance of the Bharatiya Jnanpith cannot be ignored. There is, however, another point also, a point of greater importance, and that is that when a writer writes, he does so for certain values, for upholding certain values. He makes an effort to free his moral values from their superficial and restricted limits and takes them to deeper and more heart-felt meanings. In this effort he has to face severe opposition of the society. This step of the Bharatiya Jnanpith creates the possibility of recognising the broader meanings of life in the context of all such opposition. This, indeed, is of great significance.

That is why when I say to the Bharatiya Jnanpith: 'Thanks', though it is a single word, it has three meanings.

Many have tried to catch the flames of fire with tongs: the tongs of lores and customs ! There have also been many critics trying to catch those flames with the tongs of some 'isms' or the other. And when the flames do not yield to those tongs, they get annoyed.

The truth is that the flames can be caught only by flames. So I would like to tell the Bharatiya Jnanpith and all those connected with this Award that I congratulate you for your vision which has opened wide the vistas that take Indian literary consciousness to the people at large.

I had written the following poem in a difficult phase of my life:

Today I sold a world
and bought a religion
It was an act of blasphemy
From the roll of dreams woven
before I tore off a yard
and stitched a blouse of life.
Today, I took off the lid
from the bowl of the sky
and drank a sip of moonlight
This one moment
borrowed from death
I will repay with my Songs

A difficult time is not only delicate time. If suddenly so much recognition and love come your way, that also becomes an equally delicate time. So I would say today:

O my song ! pay off the debt of my love,

Let the call of the world come from every line of yours.
My thanks again and again.

—Amrita Pritam

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"PAPERBACK PUBLISHING TODAY"

*TAJ RAWAT**

What is a Paperback?

A 'Paperback' is an edition of books printed in simple, soft, glossy and reasonable paper cover. According to Fund and Wagnall's New English Dictionary: 'paperback' means, "a paper covered novel or book." Websters' New International Dictionary explains this term in a more clear cut way "paperback means a paperback book—called also paperbook, paperbound, papercover and softcover." Paperback term can be defined more explicitly as paperback mysteries, paperback reprints, or relating to paperback books and paperback story telling etc. Chambers' Twentieth Century Dictionary explains—paperback in the simplest form: "a book with paper cover".

Other book editions

In proper words paperback is an edition of books which have a soft cover simply prepared by the same paper on which the book is printed. This is also called (popular) edition or soft cover edition. Paperback publishing in India has got a solid impetus since 1970. Earlier than this, there were very few publishing houses to produce paperback editions in large quantities. Other editions are also important to note here, i.e. (i) library edition or deluxe edition are uniquely excellent editions for a longer life. Hand cover bound edition is a specific edition of books particularly prepared for libraries or museums. The cover is prepared with golden printing and with elusive design. Hence, paperback edition is cheap, reasonable without having any hard cover. But the hard cover bound book is costlier than other editions.

Crisis in Paperback Publishing in India

The paperback publishing in India has its own colour and history in our country. It came into existence only after independence. Novels, reasonable literary books, scholarly journals and other books of literary interest which appear in series are published in large quantities in paperbacks and are supplied in the market at very reasonable rates. Paperback publishing has got worldwide fame in the field of book publishing in Third World countries. In Third World countries where the masses are semi-literate and struggling for higher education, paperback publishing has proved a boon for them. Such literary as well as educational books are supplied to them at reasonable rates particularly for rural readers, who mostly enjoy cheap novels, story-books and other books of literary taste, take interest in such books immediately.

Importance of Paperbacks

Paperback editions are more important to our readers as they happen to be available at moderate rates which is a matter of importance both to the publishers and the readers. In the real sense, paperback publishing is an excellent process to reasonable books which benefit both the readers and the publishers and here, the author plays an important role of a messenger or a powerful communicator. Thus it is quite obvious that paperback publishing is of great importance to a country like ours.

Four Factors

Keeping in view the demands and interests of Indian readers, publishers should publish very interesting paperback editions of story-books, novels and other literary books. But the main thing is how to popularise paperback editions in India through large publishing houses. There are four factors to deal with it.

(i) Interest of educated people (readers)
(ii) The Demand and popularity for so-called novels or literary books
(iii) Printing process and capability of a fine production
(iv) The author's effort to create an excellent image for his creative work in the literary market.

These factors make a publisher aware about the book production in the paperback edition or popular editions. There is a slight difference in paperback and popular editions, according to new terminology.)

Campaign for the Paperback

It was also felt that some prominent book houses should initiate a campaign to publish such rare books in paperbacks that the common man can be benefited by that

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project. The well established authors should also think and study in this way seriously.

For example, prominent book-houses, like Tata McGraw Hill Macmillan & Co., Vikas Publishing House, Vision Books, Hind Pocket Books, Abhinave Publishers, Star Pocket Books, Rajpal and Raj Kamal Prakashans should also think on these lines afresh. No doubt, the above houses are doing well in this field but I am talking about the paperback editions in U.K. and U.S.A. which turn bestsellers all of a sudden. Sterling Publishing House is doing well with a marked difference in this field by producing sophisticated paperback editions for the benefit of intellectuals as well as other readers which has made waves in the field of publishing in India. Some of the above houses are producing such editions for the purpose of both popularising the books as well as authors. This also helps in bridging the gulf between the publishers and the authors by producing durable reasonable paperback editions.

Publisher-Author Relations

In fact, hard cover bound books are very costly and no commoner can read or buy them easily or in particular, it is very difficult to distribute such books on a mass scale so only paperback editions can solve this problem.

As far as the author is concerned, he should do his best to win over the masses and subsequently should have excellent relations with the publishers, also, to make his market lively and creative conscious. In this way, the publisher can be proved to be a very helpful hand for an author to make his world vast and saleable to the readers. Hind Pocket Books, Star Publications, Saraswati Vihar and other pocket series are in the offing. But are they publishing books on freedom conscious or citizen conscious, human rights and democracy? But the problem is that some new publishers are involved in publishing choicest filthy literature for their readers. And they are doing well in publishing paperback editions. In fact, the combined efforts of the author and the publisher are responsible for their success, in particular.

Extinctions of Voluntary Publishers

Sasta Sahitya Mandal is also producing excellent books on Mahatma Gandhi and his associates in the form of biographical sketches or Gandhian philosophy and studies. Unfortunately, this organisation could not prove solid impetus in the field of paperback publishing in comparison with other voluntary organizations. It is also a questionable thing how many readers are being benefited by such publishing trusts or organizations? or are they trying their best to popularise their publications through the media or other communicable sources? How many publishing houses have achieved their goals in the field of paperback publishing since independence? This question compels us again and again to think over the modernised printing industry and its outputs also. For this purpose, Mr. Narendra Kumar (Vikas) and O.P. Ghai's (Sterling Publishing House) steps will be appreciated for their variety of books which are produced in time both for intellectuals as well as common readers.

No doubt, a new breed of publishers have become very helpful to the intelligentsia, readers and laymen by producing excellent books on various subjects with missionary, venturesome and challenging efforts. This breed of publishers is one or two decades old. One shining example among them is Sterling House in itself which has successfully broken the monopoly of some large publishing houses and established itself as an "Education For All" organization. It is also an invariable fact that some of them have vanished, some have gained new momentum and some publishing houses have achieved their goals in the field of publishing industry in our country.

Paperback publishing is gaining a new momentum in India since independence. This has shown a tremendous progress in the last two decades. For the neo-literate or educated class not economically so sound, paperback editions will no doubt encourage them in the field of literature, art and culture.

Even some large publishing houses should produce top sophisticated paperback publications to encourage more readers for their purpose. Reputed publishers like Vikas, Macmillan, Tata McGraw and Sterling should also publish more sophisticated paperback series for the masses. For this, Vikas Publishing House has been doing its best for some years. In this way, we hope that we will get some excellent, glossy elusive covered paperbacks from Vikas and other publishing houses. Sterling House has already coined itself in the frame.

The most important thing which hurts us is why these big publishing houses do not publish sophisticated paperback scholarly journals as some western publishers are doing for the last two to three decades to mobilise the scholarly market of intellectuals.

It is also quite interesting to note that paperback editions can sell well in the developing countries as the people want to read excellent literature at reasonable rates and that can be possible only by publishing paperback editions, keeping in view the reasons and demand of a book suited to the needs of local and the urban people.

We hope that in the new future we will see more sophisticated books and scholarly journals in modernised paperback editions.

Taj Rawat
"Asiana"
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* Taj Rawat is a Delhi based freelance writer who mainly contributes articles on mass communication, scholarly literature, educational planning and administration.

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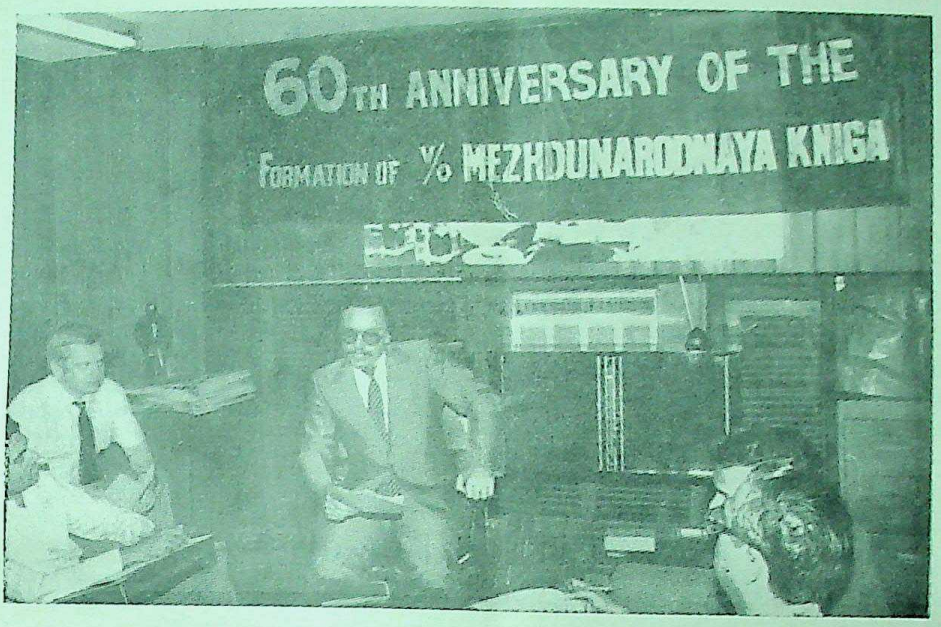
60 YEARS OF V/O MEZHDUNARODNAYA KNIGA CELEBRATED IN NEW DELHI



Mr V.R. Gonchar addressing the press conference at the celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the formation of Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga, Sole Exporter and Importer of Books, Mr A.V. Uhov is also seen in the photograph.

Lovers of Soviet books, periodicals, records and tapes, works of present day fine arts and art albums, slides, films and postage stamps—rejoiced on the 60th Anniversary of the All-Union Association V/o Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga.

V/o Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga, founded on April 11, 1923, is the only export-import organisation in the Soviet Union, which deals in books, periodicals, postage stamps, gramophone records, slides, slide projectors, film strips etc.

On April 11, this year, a special function was organised by the USSR Book Centre, New Delhi, to mark the 60th Anniversary of the Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga. H.E. V.N. Rykov, Ambassador of the USSR in India, was the chief guest and Mr V.P. Senin, Trade Representative of the USSR in India, delivered the welcome speech.

Highlighting the activities of Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga, Mr. V.P. Senin thanked all the business partners of this firm here in India, new, as well as those who have been doing business with the association for decades. Mr Senin said that he firmly believed that the beginning of the seventh decade of Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga would see the further strengthening of close relations with the firms who are already doing business with the organisation and hoped that many new firms would start doing business with the Soviet counterpart. Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga, he said, would, as always, be ready to expand business relations on principles of mutual respect, trust and cooperation.

H.E V.N. Rykov distributed medals and diplomas to business partners of Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga in India for their meritorious works in promoting book trade between India and the USSR.

A Press Conference was held at the USSR Book Centre, New Delhi, on April 9, 1983, on the eve of the 60th Anniversary of the formation of Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga. The conference was addressed by Mr V.R. Gonchar, Head of the Department, Trade Representation of the USSR in India.

Addressing the conference Mr Gonchar explained the activities and plans of Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga. He informed that Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga's trade turnover now exceeds 100 million rubles a year, as against 200,000 roubles in its earlier years. In reply to a question Mr V.R. Gonchar stated that Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga was now planning to sell master video tapes in colour to companies in India. He also informed that Indian songs, particularly of Lata Mangeshkar, Nazia Hussan, etc., are very popular in the Soviet Union. During 1982, the USSR imported from India gramophone records worth Rs 36 lacks and exported to India records worth Rs 4 lacks. Also books of Rabindranath Tagore, Premchand, Krishan Chander sold out in the Soviet Union almost as soon as they were published in their Russian version.

To celebrate the occasion a number of exhibitions were organised in various parts of the capital city.

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Outstanding Soviet Literature

Maxim Gorky
CHILDHOOD
Cloth, pp. 240, Rs 6.00

This is the first book of the autobiographical trilogy by Maxim Gorky. The book written before the revolution in 1913-1914, is very popular with Soviet and foreign readers.

It is a story about the difficult childhood of Alysoha Peshkov.

The boy peers with interest at the surrounding world, the world of the old autocratic Russia of the end of the 19th century. The kind and sincere people who introduced the future writer to this "interesting though hard life" are depicted with love and sympathy. The book is infused with passionate faith in the ordinary man, and in the grandeur of his soul.

Maxim Gorky
THE CITY OF THE YELLOW DEVIL
Cloth, pp. 150, Rs 3.00

The essays and pamphlets included in this book were written by Gorky in 1906 during his stay in the United States. Gorky rediscovered America. The prairies and the sky-scrapers left him unimpressed. What he showed in his writings was the true social face of imperialist America, the lie and hypocrisy of its notorious democracy.

L. Tolstoy
RESURRECTION
Cloth, pp. 490, Rs 15.00

Resurrection, written from 1889 to 1899, was the last novel of Lev Tolstoy, a veritable encyclopedia of Russian life at the century.

Its plot is based on an actual fact told to Tolstoy by a well-known lawyer, A. Koni. At the trial of a young woman, one of the jurymen recognised her as the girl he had seduced and left some years before. She was sentenced to hard labour, and to atone for his sin and make her lot easier, he decided to marry her.

The book is supplied with illustrations made by Leonid Pasternak for the first edition of the novel and personally approved by Tolstoy.

L. Tolstoy
TALES OF SEVASTOPOL:
THE COSSACKS
Cloth, pp. 380, Rs 11.50

Tales of Sevastopol by the great Russian writer Lev Tolstoy (1828-1910) are an account of what he himself saw during the Crimean War (1853-1856). They are based on real facts and events which Tolstoy observed while assigned to one of the dangerous spots in Sevastopol's defences.

"The hero of my story, whom I love with all the vigour of my soul, whom I have attempted to picture in all of his beauty, and who always was, is and will be great is—Truth", writes Tolstoy while concluding one of the stories.

Fyodor Dostoyevsky
THE IDIOT
Book I, pp. 390
Book II; pp. 370, Cloth,
Rs 18.00 (for the set of two volumes)

"This author is unique in our letters, so profound are the ideas in his books, and so big the moral problems he delves into. He explores not only what moves the public today; he goes further, into future quests of the mankind he envisages," wrote Mikhail Saltykov-Shchedrin, the Russian satirist and Dostoyevsky's contemporary, who was the first to properly evaluate *The Idiot* in a press review.

This edition is prefaced by Konstantin Fedin, the well-known Soviet writer.

Ivan Turgenev
STORIES AND POEMS IN PROSE
Cloth, pp. 440, Rs 13.00

This collection includes seven short novels and stories written by Turgenev at different periods of his writing career. They are "Three Meetings" (1851), "The Tavern" (1852), "Faust" (1856), "Asya" (1857), "The First Love" (1860), "King Lear of the Steppe" (1870), "After Death" ("Klara Milich") (1882) and selected miniatures from the cycle "Poems in Prose" (1877-1882).

A. Kuprin
THE GARNET BRACELET
Cloth, pp. 410, Rs 5.00

A Contemporary of Lev Tolstoy and Anton Chekhov, Alexander Kuprin belongs to the generation of outstanding Russian prose writers of the end of the nineteenth and the beginning of the twentieth century. A "vivid, robust talent", as M. Gorky characterised him, Kuprin left us a rich literary legacy some selections of which are included in the present collections: the short stories "Olesya", "Gambrinus", "Emerald", and the short novels Moloch and The Garnet Bracelet.

Grigol Abashidze
LASHARELA
Cloth, pp. 415, Rs 12.00

Lasharela, A Georgian chronicle of the 13th century, written by Grigol Abashidze, a well-known poet and prose writer, recreates one of the most tragic pages in Georgian history, the reign of Lashi Georgi IV, the son of the great Queen Tamar, when the golden age of Georgian poetry and arts, the Georgian renaissance, came to an end, and the people's hopes of a better life were blighted by feudal cruelty.

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Instructive and informative historical novels of Grigol Abashidze, Hero of Socialist Labour and State Prize winner, have received wide acclaim for their philosophical treatment of history and for their true representation of present-day life.

Mussa Jalil
SELECTED POEMS
Cloth, pp. 215, Rs 8.00

Mussa Jalil, an outstanding Tatar poet and Hero of the Soviet Union, first came out with his verses and poems about the labour achievements of the Soviet people in 1919.

During the Second World War, in 1942, he was badly wounded, taken prisoner and sent to a Nazi concentration camp, where he was executed in 1944. Another prisoner, a Belgian partisan, managed to smuggle a notebook with Jalil's poems out of the camp. This collection of verses, called The Moabit Notebooks, has come out on the occasion of the poet's 75th birth anniversary. The book is supplied with parallel Russian texts.

Alexander Fadeyev
THE YOUNG GUARD
Cloth, pp. 450, Rs 10.00

Of the three novels written by Fadyev, *The Rout*, *The Last of the Udegeh* and *The Young Guard*, the last is by far the most popular. It is essentially a fictionalised account of the "Young Guard", an underground organisation of young people which operated in the occupied territory of the Ukraine during the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945.

Victor Astafiev
QUEEN FISH
Cloth, pp. 460, Rs 11.50

This gives a panoramic view, rich in colour and scope, of the old and new Siberia. Victor Astafiev himself hails from Siberia: "...he writes in plain words that smell of the boundless taiga woods, woods that have taken in the rustle of autumn ice on the Yenisei, the serene beauty of forest lakes and the ringing chilly air overflooded meadows."

Oleg Kuvayev
THE TERRITORY
Paper, pp. 395, Rs 7.75

In 1976 this novel won the first prize in the all-Union competition of books about the working class. The territory is Chukotka, and the novel describes the discovery of gold there contrary to the expectations of many experts. This major theme is the strength of the human spirit, man's ability to reach his goal, to realise himself to the utmost.

Cleg Kuvayev spent many years in the North, as a geologist and explorer, and is therefore able to describe not only the concrete facts of life there, but also "how it really feels", because he not only stood shoulder-to-shoulder with his heroes—he was one of them.

Agnia Kuznetsova
WITH DEEP RESPECT
Cloth, pp. 210, Rs 6.25

State Prize Winner Soviet authoress Agnia Kuznetsova was born and lived for many years in the old Russian city of Irkutsk on Lake Baikail.

With Deep Respect tells about the lives of senior School children in todays Siberia, their enthusiasms, doubts, and search for their place in life.

Vladimir Bogomolov
THE ACHING IN MY HEART
Cloth, pp. 650, Rs 16.75

This book of selected works of the popular Soviet writer Vladimir Bogomolov includes a novel—In the August of 1944 on the events of the Great Patriotic War of the Soviet Union, against Nazi Germany, on Patriotism, the moral staunchness and courage of the Soviet people.

Rostislav Sambuk
THE JEWELLER FROM CAPUCHINS STREET
Cloth, pp. 260, Rs 6.00

Rostislav Sambuk is one of most popular detective and adventure story writers of Ukraine. He worked for various newspapers and Soviet Writers Publishing House in Kiev.

The Jeweler from Capuchins Street was his first major work. It was followed by *The End of Black Gnomes*, *The Vorobkevich Suitcase*, *Devils from Merry Hell*, and *Bitter Smoke*, as well as many shorter novels.

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FEDERATION NEWS

Sardar Vallabhai Patel Award Scheme for books (original or translated) in Hindi in the field of Public Administration and Management Sciences.

GENERAL

With a view to encouraging the production of standard literature in Hindi language in the field of public administration and management sciences, the Government of India has initiated a Scheme entitled Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Award Scheme for rewarding standard books (original or translated) in Hindi in the fields of public administration and management sciences including, inter alia, economic development, economic administration and development administration, etc.

AWARDS

Three awards of Rs 10,000 and 5000 respectively will be given for original books in Hindi in the above said fields. Besides, two prizes of Rs 3000 each will be given for translations into Hindi of standard original books in the above fields written in languages other than Hindi.

The decision regarding awards will be taken by an Evaluation Committee formed for the purpose. The decision of the Committee will be final and indisputable. All or any awards may not be given if the Evaluation Committee finds no entry meriting the award.

ELIGIBILITY

The scheme is open to all persons excepting those employed in the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms. As this is the second year of the awards, the books/translations published/written in 1982 (January-December) only will be entertained. Manuscripts/unpublished books will also be considered. However, the payment of awards will be made after their publication.

LAST DATE FOR ENTRY

The last date for receipt of *entries is 15th June, 1983*. The books/manuscripts received after that date will not be considered. The entry Form and further details may be had from the Under Secretary (Admn.). Department of Personnel and A.R., 5th Floor, Sardar Patel Bhavan, Sansad Marg. New Delhi-110001.

Selection of books for the entertainment of troops.

We have been advised by the Ministry of Defence that the following shortcomings have been noticed in the books submitted by the publishers:

1. Old books prior to 1982, have been submitted and/or their reprints have been received.
2. Lot of children and/or school/college books are being included.
3. Books are sent by rail which are difficult to collect.
4. Books and the lists are not sent simultaneously. In fact it is suggested the lists should be sent along with the books parcel.
5. Very inferior type of paper books are being sent.
6. The price of the books at times are fixed irrationally.

Members are requested that, henceforth, only 5 copies of the lists of books be submitted instead of ten copies.

The next submission of books will be on 1 October, 1983, and for this submission only 1983 publications will be entertained.

NEW MEMBERS OF F.I.P

The Federation of Indian Publishers welcomes Messers Books and Books, Chanakya Publications and Pushpa Publications, who have joined us as members on April 15, 1983.

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NEWS & EVENTS

FOUR NEW UNIVERSITIES LIKELY IN BIHAR

The Chief Minister of Bihar recently disclosed in the State Legislature that four new universities will be set up, one each at Divisional Headquarters of Saran, Kosi North, Chota Nagpur and Patna. The new universities are likely to be (i) Jayaprakash Narayan University at Chapra, (ii) Mandan Bharti University at Saharsa, (iii) Vinoba Bhave University at Hazaribagh and (iv) Maulana Mazrul Haq Arabic and Persian University at Patna. Formal proposals to establish these universities have been sent to the University Grants Commission, it is reported.

GOLDEN WREATH FOR VATSYAYAN

Noted Hindi literatteur Sachidananda Hirananda Vatsyayan has been awarded the 1983 Golden Wreath, a Yugoslav international annual award for poetry.

Vatsyayan, recipient of many national honours including the Sahitya Akademi Award for poetry, will receive the award in August, 1983.

Earlier winners of the award include Eugenio Nontale (Italy), Pablo Neruda (Chile) and Leopold Cedar Senghor Senegal).

NOTED BENGALI WRITER DEAD

Noted Bengali writer Prabodh Kumar Sanyal died at his south Calcutta residence on the morning of 14th April 1983, after a protracted illness. He was 78 and is survived by his wife, three daughters and two sons.

A recipient of 'Ananda Puraskar' and 'Sisir Bose Puraskar' Sanyal had over 150 books to his credit which include about 80 novels. Besides, he was an author of several travelogues.

AKADEMI HELP TO WRITERS

Haryana Sahitya Akademi has selected 23 manuscripts (fourteen Hindi, four Punjabi, and five Urdu) from writers of Haryana for publication with financial assistance from the Akademi.

Each writer will get after publication of the book Rs 2,000 or 50 per cent of the cost of his publication, whichever is less.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA RANKS SIXTH IN BOOK PUBLICATION

Czechoslovakia ranks sixth in the world, in U.N. statistics, in the per capita annual number of published books—six

In the list of languages most translated from, Czech is seventh. In the past five years, over 900 works of Czechoslovak fiction were published abroad, including 167 in capitalist countries. The most translated Czech authors are Karel Capek, Jaroslav Hasek, and Julius Fucik.

External relations in the field of literature are handled by the Czechoslovak literary and theatrical agency Dilia. Estabished in 1948, it maintains contacts with 62 foreign agencies.

With Soviet partners, it concludes some 200 contracts every year on the publication of Soviet and Russian authors in Czechoslovakia, and 70-80 Czechoslovak literary works in the Soviet Union.

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Also extensive are literary exchanges with the GDR, Hungary, Poland and Bulgaria, and cooperation is developing with West Germany and Japan, where great interest exists mainly in Czechoslovak books for children and specialized publications.

HAWAII AWARD FOR PREM KIRPAL

The East-West Centre at Honolulu, Hawaii (USA), a research and educational institution established by the US Congress in 1960, has selected Dr Prem N. Kirpal, a well-known educationist and former Education Secretary to the Government of India, to receive the Centre's Distinguished Alumni Award for 1982.

Dr Kirpal will receive the award during the Fourth International East-West Centre Alumni Conference which is scheduled from July 28 to August 1, 1983 in Singapore. The award recognises outstanding accomplishment since completing study at the Centre and continuing contributions to the promotion of better relations and understanding among countries of East and West.

AWARD FOR RANCHI ANTHROPOLOGY DON

Dr L.P. Vidyarthi of Ranchi University has been conferred the distinguished service award jointly by the Association for Anthropological Diplomacy, Politics and Society and the Association of Third World Anthropology, Dr Vidyarthi is the first person from a developing country to be honoured in such a manner. The presentation of the award will take place in Chicago, U.S.A., in November.

Dr Vidyarthi is Head of the Department of Anthropology in Ranchi University and has several distinguished publications in social sciences to his credit. He has also held high offices in Indian and international associations for anthropological studies.

SINDHI SAHITYA ACADEMY

The Maharashtra Government has set up a Sindhi Sahitya Academy for the promotion and encouragement of Sindhi literature in all its aspects. The board of the academy is headed by Mr Moti K. Daryanami and the members are Prof. Ram Panjwani, Mr Baldev T. Gajra, Miss Sita Samtani and Mr Lachhman Khubchandani.

BOOKS ON MEMORIAL STONES PUBLISHED BY KARNATAK UNIVERSITY

The Institute of Indian Art History, Department of History and Archaeology published *Memorial Stones* being the second in IIAH series in collaboration with South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg, Germany in November 1982. The volume treats with a study of the origin, significance and variety of *memorial stones*, such as hero and *sati* stones and *nisidhis*, which constitute a valuable contemporary source material for history and culture. It is edited by Dr S. Settar and Gunther D. Sontheimer. It contains 34 papers, 175 illustrations and an index.

HP BID TO CATCH UP WITH KERALA IN LITERACY

Though Kerala continues to have the highest percentage of literacy in the country, Himachal Pradesh has made rapid strides in the field during the past 30 years.

Official figures show that Kerala has raised its percentage of literates from 40.38 in 1951 to 72.42 in 1981 and continues to lead over all other States. But in Himachal Pradesh, which had only 4.86 per cent literates in 1951, the percentage has gone up to 42.48 in 1981—an increase by 774.70 per cent.

The national average percentage of literates has risen from 15.83 in 1951 to 36.23 in 1981 registering a growth of 129.62 per cent during the past 30 years.

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The main reason for Kerala's performance is the substantial budgetary allocation it has been making for education. In 1982-83, its expenditure was as much as 36.1 per cent of the State's total budget which itself was a record in the country. Himachal Pradesh, however, spent only 22.9 per cent of its total budget for education during 1982-83.

In terms of percentage of literates to total population in 1981, Kerala is followed closely by the Union Territory of Chandigarh (64.79), Delhi (61.54), Mizoram (59.88), Goa, Daman and Diu (56.66) and the like. Arunachal Pradesh with 20.79 per cent literacy was at the bottom of the list.

Delhi, which had 30.19 per cent literates in 1951, raised it to 61.54 in 1981 earning it the third position in the country. But its rate of growth of literacy has been rather slow and was slightly more than that of Andaman and Nicobar islands. The percentage of revised estimated expenditure on education in Delhi during 1982-83 was, however, 33 per cent of its total budget—next only to Kerala.

BOOK ON CANCER RELEASED

The first Indian handbook on "The diagnosis and management of cancer", written by Dr D.J. Jussawalla, Dr Ashok R. Mehta, Dr (Mrs) M.B. Sampat and Dr A.R. Chitale, was released by Dr H.N. Sethna, Tata Memorial Centre chairman.

The sheriff, Mr S.P. Godrej, released a 60-minute cassette on cancer by Dr Jussawalla.

RUSSIA PUBLISHES TAGORE'S WORK

A book of selected prose by Rabindranath Tagore has been published in Alma Ata, the capital of Soviet Kazakhastan, reports Tass.

The book, including several short stories and tales, has been translated by well-known Kazakh prose-writer, Safuan Shaimerdenov. In the, sixties his novel, *The Mountain*, was translated.

Dr Karan Singh seen with Shreeram Vidyarthi, Director, Books from India U.K. Ltd.

DR KARAN SINGH ATTENDS SIGNING SESSION

Dr Karan Singh, the well known thinker and statesman of contemporary India signed copies of his book HEIR APPARENT: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY (published by Oxford University Press, New Delhi and being released here in U.K. by O.U.P., in May, £9.95) on the 27th of April, in a special signing session held in the showroom of BOOKS FROM INDIA (UK) LIMITED at 69 Great Russell Street, London WC18 3BQ.

The first print run of the book in India is already sold out. A limited number of copies of the book were specially flown in from Delhi for this signing session.

At present, copies of this book can be had from BOOKS FROM INDIA (U.K.) Limited.

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EXHIBITION OF HUNG ARIAN BOOKS INAUGURATED BY DR. (MRS) MADHURI SHAH

An exhibiton of Hungarian Books was inaugurated by Dr (Mrs) Madhuri Shah, Chairman, University Grants Commission on 26th April 1983 at the Hungarian Information and Cultural Centre.

Dr (Mrs) Shah was very impressed by the display of the colourful flaps of hundreds of books which were exhibited on the walls of the exhibition gallery. Opening the exhibition Dr (Mrs) Shah said that this was the first time she saw how the display of flaps could give a brief but comprehensive idea about the books.

Many publishers and booksellers were present at the occasion. Mr O.P. Ghai, the Vice President of the Federation of Indian Publishers, who spoke on the occasion said that Hungarian books are very popular all over the world and certain disciplines like Medicine, Physics, Chemistry and Technology are very useful. He regretted that those books are not available in the Indian market. He requested Hungarian authorities for all possible assistance in making these valuable books available in the Indian market.

INDIAN BOOKSHELF

A new monthly, the INDIAN BOOKSHELF, has been started by Shri J.B. Baxi, the publisher of Kanak Publications, New Delhi. The first issue was published in January, 1983 and the latest and fifth issue (May 1983) has been released recently. The monthly is being published regularly and covers four to five reviews in depth of the choicest new Indian publications reviewed by competent scholars in the field. The monthly also lists new publications released during the month giving full bibliographical data of the publications. The publishers are requested to mail the information about their new publications and review copies to the Editor, Indian Bookshelf, Gay House, 16/F-3 Ansari Road, New Delhi-110002.

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Paperbacks Published In 1982
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Education and revolution in Nicaragua: The National Literacy Crusade 1980. New Delhi, Indian Social Institute, 1983, Rs 7.50

Balakrishnan, V.
Blue Jasmine. New Delhi, Sterling, 1982, Rs 6

Berne, Eric
Games people play: The psychology of human relationship. New Delhi, Sterling, 1982, Rs 10

Bhattacharya, Bhabani
So many hungers. Delhi, Orient Paperbacks, 1983, 208p. Rs 14

Bright, J.S.
Better business and commercial letters. New Delhi, Hind Pocket Books, 1983, Rs 15

Colaabavala, F.D.
Sin cities of the world. Delhi, Orient Paperbacks, 1983, Rs 12

Chowdhury
Rabindra Nath. Delhi, Orient Paperbacks, 1983, 213p. Rs 16

De Souza, Alfred
Urban growth and urban planning: Political context and people's priorities. New Delhi, Indian Social Institute, 1983, Rs 25

Deshpande, R.G. & Salpekar, G.R.
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Harris, Thomas A.
I'am O.K. you're O.K. New Delhi, Sterling, 1983 Rs 15

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Khushwant Singh
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Insight into English: Grammar, composition and comprehension. New Delhi, Allied, 1983, 325p. Rs 12

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Selections from English literature. New Delhi, Selina Publishers, 1983, 152p. Rs 10

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Peale, Norman Vincent
Treasury of courage and confidence. Delhi, Orient Paperbacks, 1983, 160p. Rs 14

Pereira, A.P.
Achieve success and happiness. Delhi, Orient Paperbacks, 1983, 160p. Rs 10

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Vijayawada. Swati Publications, 1983, Rs 8

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Essays on Indian Economics: A collection of essays and speeches. Madras, Publications Division, 1983, Rs 10

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Kung Fu. Delhi, Orient Paperbacks, 1983, 240p. Rs 15

Shakuntala Devi
Puzzles to puzzle you. Delhi, Orient Paperbacks, 1983, 136p. Rs 10

Keki N Daruwalla
Sword and Abyss—A collection of short stories Trang Paperbacks 1983, Rs 12.00

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BOOK REVIEWS

INDIAN RELIGIONS by S. Radhakrishnan, Orient Paperbacks, 1983, Rs 15

India nurtures the most varied religions in the world. This study contains essays on the various religions in India: Hinduism, Islam, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism. The salient features of each religion have been discussed. The need for religion, Indian religious thought, the heart of Hinduism, the Hindu Dharma, the Hindu Idea of God, Islam, and Indian thought, Hindu thought and Christian doctrine, Buddha and his religion, Adi Granth and the Sikh religion are the essays contained in this book.

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan (1888-1975) was the President of India as well as a known figure in intellectual affairs.

LOVE POEMS OF TAGORE, translated by Rabindra Nath Choudhury, Orient Paperbacks, 1983, Rs 16

Translated by Rabindra Nath Choudhury, this book concentrates on one aspect of Tagore's poems: the theme of love. Each poem is a masterpiece in itself. The translator has made an attempt to adhere to the Bengali version as near as possible. For sheer lyrical beauty, the poems will parallel the best in world literature. They are bound to be treasured by admirers of Tagore.

THE LONG ROAD: SINO-RUSSIAN ECONOMIC CONTACTS FROM ANCIENT TIMES TO 1917 by M.I. Sladkovsky, Progress Publishers, Moscow 1981, Rs 8

The writer is a prominent Soviet Orientalist and director of the Institute of Far Eastern Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

In this thorough monograph vast factual and documentary material is invoked to illustrate the evolution of economic ties between the peoples that inhabited what are now the territories of the Soviet Union and China.

The writer examines the factors behind the specificity of Sino-Russian relations not only in commerce, but also politically, internationally, and so on.

The hegemonistic Great Han "theories" of China's present-day leaders are taken back to their historical sources.

ETHIOPIA: POPULATION RESOURCES ECONOMY by Georgi Galperin, Progress Publishers, Moscow, 1981, Price not mentioned

Ethiopia is one of the biggest African states. It has considerable economic potential and plays an important part in African politics. The interest in Ethiopia has noticeably grown in connection with the rapid revolutionary renovation which began in February 1974. Today, Ethiopia is the scene of a great battle against incredible economic backwardness, age-long poverty, ignorance, disease and hunger, a battle for creating the foundations of a new, socialist state and society.

This book gives a comprehensive economic and geographic description of Ethiopia. The reader will find the most updated information on her population, resources and economy. Though basically scientific in character, the book is written in a simple language. The author is a Soviet Africanist with numerous publications on the problems of Africa in general, and those of Ethiopia in particular.

DID MARX KILL GOD by Moti Lal Pandit, I.S.P.C.K., 1981, Rs 25

This book actually is about Marxism and Christianity: it is in fact a critique of Marx from the Christian point of view. We live today at a time of heightened interest in Marxism not only because it is an ideology of politics for the socialist and communist countries, but also because it has provided a framework to organise the thought of many people around the world. Many Christians who do not subscribe to the 'dialectical materialism' and 'economic determinism' of Marx do accept his analysis of society.

It is true that Marxism, like Christianity, has man at its centre and is a philosophy of man. But Marx does not recognise as valid the elemental urge of man for God or the eternal flame in the inner recesses of man. For Marx 'matter in motion is the ultimate reality' and the 'future of man is man.' This explains why this type of exaggerated historicism is unacceptable both on the ontological and existential levels.

ALIGARH & JAMIA FIGHT FOR NATIONAL EDUCATION SYSTEM by S.M. Tonki, People's Publishing House (P) Ltd., 1983, Rs 25

In the national education movement

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Aligarh Muslim University and Jamia Millia are two historic landmarks.

Aligarh Muslim University became controversial—thanks to both Hindu and Muslim communalism nurtured by our imperialist rulers. But the origin of Aligarh lies in the earnest desire of much persecuted Muslims to grasp the ideas of change through an institution free from the control of colonial power. People from all communities contributed in establishing this university.

This book, written by one of the most eminent ex-alumns of Aligarh and one of the most competent leaders of the education movement in India, has brought out important aspects of the glorious history of these two institutions. This is a rebuff to the communalist distortion of history.

IMPERIALIST STRATEGY & MODERATE POLITICS: Indian Legislature at Work 1909-1920 by Sneh Mahajan, Chanakya Publications, 1983, Rs 120

There are very few books which deal with the general political development of the time and there, none of them gives a detailed account of the actual working of the Legislature, which evidently laid the foundation for the subsequent evolution of parliamentary system in the country. This book is a laudable attempt to fill this gap. Using convincing material culled from original sources, the book focusses on the inside working of the first Indian Legislature in the context of the British strategy to use it as an instrument to perpetuate the Raj. It shows how this strategy was foiled by the astute "Moderate" Indian leaders who used the Legislature for their own purpose, namely, to reform and regenerate Indian society, and to bring about a political awakening among the people. Here is a vivid account of the imperialist strategies including the institution of separate electorate for Muslims, and the way it worked in its earlier phase, and of the nationalist countermoves.

The book, thus, throws a revealing light on one of the most crucial periods in the history of twentieth century India, and makes itself indispensable to serious students and scholars specializing in the subject.

THE ART OF MANAGEMENT by M.K. Rustomji & S.A. Sapra, Macmillan India Ltd., 1983, Rs 20

The Art of the Management is entirely different from the general run of management books. The attraction of the book is not only the universality of its message, but also the eye-catching way in which it is presented.

The book is highly praised by all the journals and national dailies of India and the world. So this invaluable volume will not only be most useful to executives at all levels but also to students as it presents the essentials of Management in a singularly lucid down-to-earth style.

MAO'S CHINA: THE DILEMMA by T.K. Moulik, Somaiya Publications (P) Ltd., 1982, Rs 80

Professor Moulik describes, how modern China, born of the Communist Revolution, came of age with advance in science and technology, agricultural and rural development, education and health and above all, in development organizations and administrations.

A rare feature of the book is the treatment of development processes in China in the context of Mao Zedong thought and under the post-Mao open-door policies of Deng Xiaoping. On the one hand, the book indicates the problems and shortcomings of the development strategies followed in various facets of the Chinese economy and of life in general there. On the other hand it discusses the confusion, hesitancy and dilemma due to the politico-economic shifts in the post-Mao era.

A large part of the book is focussed on China's rural life. But unlike usual rural studies, the book gives a comprehensive account of all the wider socio-political forces to which a rural policy is exposed, thereby explaining why certain social changes have followed one direction rather than another.

Moulik's volume is rewarding for all those interested in the contemporary scenario of China's economic, political and development strategies. His book looks closely at such far ranging topics as the changing commune system, rural energy system, science and technology, education, health, consumerism, deMaoization and politics and socio-political ethics. The book concludes with a detailed account of the post-Mao leaders' assessment of the history of the Chinese communist party.

INDIA 1982: A Reference Annual by Research & Reference Division, Publisations Division, 1982, Rs 40

India 1982 is the twenty-eighth issue of the Reference Annual compiled and edited by the Research and Reference Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The Annual contains information on diverse aspects of our national life and activities, collected from official and other authentic sources.

The publication is useful to everybody interested in information on India. It is now an established work of reference, useful to scholars, students, officials, journalists, academicians, professionals and others. Each chapter is revised annually and every effort is made to provide information as clearly as possible.

The publication attempts to describe the machinery of government and various institutions. It also documents the initiatives and progress achieved in various spheres of activities. A new chapter on the revised 20 Point Programme is added which

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has been described by the Prime Minister as the "core of the Sixth Plan."

To add to the usefulness of the publication, the book contains four maps showing states and union territories, air and rail links, national highways and some important tourist centres.

For the convenience of readers seeking more details on specific topics, a bibliography is also given at the end of the book.

MAN IN HIS WORKING ENVIRONMENT by International Labour Office, Geneva, 1979, Swiss Francs 12.50

This manual is intended to alert workers and trade unions to the fact that, notwithstanding the benefits they bring, economic development and technical progress can have harmful effects not only on the working environment but also on all the quality of life of the workers. It describes the laws and principles of ecology, showing how failure to abide by them can affect both rural and urban areas. The world of labour is invited to take an active part in the world campaign for protection of the human environment. Every businessman should have atleast one copy of this book to provide a good working environment for their workers.

ELLORA PAINTINGS by P.V. Ranade, Parimal Prakashan, 1980, Rs 50

Dr. P.V. Ranade's script on Ellora Paintings is the first major attempt to illustrate and interpret the wealth and variety of mural art at Ellora. It may surprise many, if they were told that Ellora was once as rich as Ajanta in mural art. The walls and ceilings were as beautiful and splendid as the Ajanta paintings. With those paintings Ellora was another Ajanta. Like Ajanta, the caves of Ellora were brightly coloured where paintings and sculptures were alternated and combined on a level of equal visual importance. Over the centuries much of the wealth of the paintings was lost. This loss has robbed Ellora of its rightful place in the history of Indian paintings. Yet the surviving murals contain a wealth of artistic creation that still astounds and surprises us with its variety of linear rhythms and coloured impressions.

Dr. P.V. Ranade, a well-known historian, introduces this less known and neglected aspect of Ellora art tradition in this work on Ellora paintings. The author's script analyses and interprets what it illustrates through beautiful coloured plates. The book presents a delightful narration and perceptive understanding of the Ellora paintings.

THE HIMALAYAN GATEWAY: History and Culture of Sikkim by George Kotturan, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1983, 180pp, Rs 75

India is a country of immense diversity in life and culture. It is in this context that regional studies are important in their contribution to the making of the Indian nation. The central theme in this book is the social and political consolidation of the Indian people as a whole.

This study of Sikkim is designed to show the pattern of political and social compulsions which finally made the people there cast their lot with India. Historically and culturally Sikkim is unique. It extends geographically right to the border of Tibet and must be considered as the main gateway across the Himalayas. The book makes a study of this 'Gateway', and the history, culture and rich folklore of this region.

SIMMERING VOLCANO: Study of Jammu's Relations with Kashmir by Balraj Puri, Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 1983, 156pp, Rs 65

The book is almost the first attempt at a serious study of the politics of a region within a State and implications of its relations with other regions. It underlines the importance of the Jammu problem which contributed to many an explosive situation in the State in the past, including the crisis of 1953 when Abdullah was deposed and arrested. The book analyses the intensity and nature of Jammu's discontent and the anatomy of its psychological and political make up. Two main articulations of it, namely demand for regional autonomy and abrogation of Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, are examined thoroughly. Views of leaders like Jawaharlal Nehru, Shyamaprasad Mukerjee and Sheikh Abdullah are cited and discussed. The recommendations of the Gajendragadkar Commission and Sikri Commission are studied and their summaries are added as appendices. The book is a balanced and objective study of the past and a warning to the future.

RAMMA BANS' BOOK OF HEALTH AND BEAUTY, IBH Publishing Co., Bombay, 1983, Rs 30

The secret of beauty is knowing how to make the best of oneself. Exercises, diet, make-up as well as the cultivation of personality and poise are important factors that need to be kept in mind. Ramma Bans emphasizes the point that a healthy body and a healthy mind are complementary to one another. Stress and strain, or psychological barriers such as an inferiority complex or the inability to cope have not been neglected. The development of one's own individual style greatly enhances one's appeal and is the result of personal self-confidence.

Profusely illustrated, with detailed calorie charts and exercises, the book will be an invaluable guide to every woman who wants to bring out the best in herself.

Rama Bans is health and beauty spa's consultant for the ITC chain of hotels.

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INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY

MOSCOW BOOK FAIR NUMBER 1983

ol. XXVIII No. 4 JULY 1983

Duplicate

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This issue of

INDIAN BOOK INDUSTRY

is devoted to

SOVIET & INDIAN BOOK PUBLISHING

to encourage

SOVIET-INDIAN BOOK EXCHANGE

for the

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चन्दे से प्राप्त संख्या.....
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Guest Editorial

Growing Co-operation between publishers of India and USSR

The last few years have seen the growth of close ties between the Soviet and Indian publishers. Even before Independence, Tolstoy and Gorky were household names in India. In addition, Indian writers were continually drawing inspiration from the works of Tikhonov, Gogol, Sholokhov, Pushkin, Dostoyevsky and Chekov. Many of their works were published in a number of Indian languages.

Indian classics, like Ramayana, Mahabharata, Panchtantra and Shakuntala and the writings of Mahatma Gandhi, Jwaharlal Nehru and Tagore, as also the works of contemporary Indian writers like Krishan Chandra, Yashpal and Amrita Pritam, were translated and published into a number of Soviet languages. Nearly one thousand Indian titles running into forty million copies were printed and distributed.

The major factor which enthused a new spirit of co-operation was the visit of a 5-member delegation of the Federation of Indian Publishers to the Soviet Union in April 1981, and the reciprocal visit of the Soviet delegation to India in February 1982.

These meetings resulted in the signing of protocols, covering a wide spectrum, on the manner and steps to be taken to increase the two-way flow of books. One of the important provisions of the protocols was the establishment of the Joint Working Group of USSR Goskomizdat and the Federation of Indian Publishers to keep continuous liaison and to monitor the progress achieved towards the attainments of the objectives.

Many important decisions were taken regarding import and export of books, translation rights, co-authorship and co-publishing. The significance of exchange of bibliographical information, and its expeditious processing, was fully acknowledged.

Another outcome was the holding of exhibitions of Soviet books in India and Indian books in the Soviet Union on a continuing basis. Both countries also agreed to provide in-house training to publishing executives in each other's countries.

Co-operation in the field of music, art, theatre and cinema has contributed to the enrichment of cultural inter-action between the two countries. In this atmosphere of fraternity and friendship, increases in the exchange of literature is perhaps inevitable.

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A very serious feature is the wide imbalance between the import and export trade of Indian and Soviet books. India's import of Soviet books is much more than the export of Indian books to the USSR. This is due to the fact that books, postage stamps and phonographic records are tied-up in the same agreement. Unless all these items are bifurcated, the export of Indian books to the USSR, which is so far negligible, is not going to appreciably increase. However, a beginning has been made in this direction and there is scope for vast improvement.

This special issue of Indian Book Industry, being brought out at the initiative of VAAP, the Copy Right Agency of USSR, is the first cooperative attempt to deal with the structure, prospects and export potential of books published in the USSR and India.

The first part comprises articles on different aspects of the publishing industry of the USSR followed by reviews of recent important Soviet publications. This will acquaint Indian publishers with the range and variety of Soviet publications and will help them decide about translation rights into different Indian languages.

Similarly, Part Two consists of articles about the various facets of the publishing industry in India followed by reviews of a few select publications. This is just a sampling and a bird's-eye view of the large variety of books published in India on different subjects. It will help Soviet publishers decide about the rights of publishing these and many other books into the various languages of the USSR.

For copies of books, publishers in the Soviet Union can write to the publishers in India directly. For further assistance they can write to:

The Secretary, Federation of Indian Publishers, 18/1-C, Institutional Area, JNU Road, New Delhi-110067.

President,
Federation of Indian Publishers
New Delhi.

Narendra Kumar

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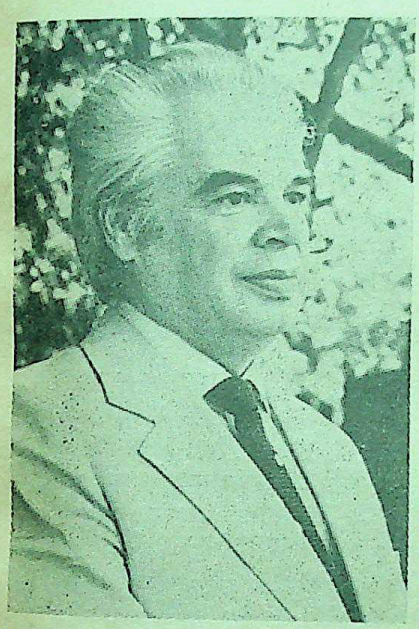
The 1983 Moscow International Book Fair



Igor Kazansky, General Director of the General Directorate of International Book Exhibitions and Fairs of the USSR State Committee on Publishing, Printing and the Book Trade.

The State Committee for Publishing, Printing and the Book Trade (Goskomizdat USSR) together with the Copyright Agency of the USSR (VAAP), the foreign trade association Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga and other agencies, public organizations and creative unions are conducting this September the Fourth Moscow International Book Fair. This year's motto will be the same as that of previous years: "Books in the service of peace and progress".

The purposes of the Moscow Book Fair—to assist the worldwide development of cultural cooperation among nations, to promote publications that best contribute to a strengthening of peace and detente, to expand business between publishing and bookselling organizations and to stimulate the export and import of books and reciprocal translations of literature—have met with the approval of wide circles of the international community, publishers and book distributors in many countries. Whereas the exhibitors in the 1977 Moscow Book Fair numbered 1,535 firms and organizations from 67 countries and three international organizations, and the 1979 fair 2,290 firms and organizations from 75 countries and nine international organizations, the 1981 Moscow Book Fair was attended by more than 2,300 firms and organizations from 83 countries and by 12 international organizations, including the United Nations, UNESCO, CMEA, ILO (International Labour Organization), the World Peace Council, WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization), and the World Postal Union.

The commercial success of the 1981 book fair surpassed that of previous fairs. The 1981 book fair's foreign participants who regularly attend book forums in Moscow praised them for stimulating business cooperation both with Soviet publishing and bookseller organizations and with colleagues in other countries. At the 1981 fair, Soviet organizations concluded with foreign exhibitors 6,463 export and import contracts for the concession of rights to published books (as compared with 5,109 at the 1979 fair), 417 of which were concluded with publishers from developing countries (218 at the 1979 fair). Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga purchased a total of over 90 million rubles worth of books from foreign bookseller firms.

The up and coming 1983 fair will be once again held at the USSR Exhibition of National Economic Achievements on 25,000 square-metre space.

We welcome to the fair all book publishing and bookseller firms and

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organizations, international and national publishers' and booksellers' associations, international and national copy-right organizations, and literary agencies and societies that agree to the "Terms of Participation in the 1983 Moscow International Book Fair". The list of items that can be exhibited for display, sale or concession of book rights includes books on various topics, sheet music, maps and atlases, postcards, reproductions, stamps, slides and other forms of printed material, as well as phonograph records.

Each Moscow book fair is different in its own way. For example, at the 1981 fair the international exhibition entitled "Books and Environmental Protection" enjoyed great popularity. Planned for this year's fair is a special international display called "The Role of Books in the Development of National Culture and Education". This theme will be the topic of the Moscow Fair's traditional session of the Business Meetings Club, to which are invited prominent public figures, writers, and representatives from the sciences and arts from various countries.

The General Directorate of the Moscow Book Fair in concert with *Soviet Woman* magazine traditionally sponsor an international drawing contest for children. This year's theme will be "We'll give the world to children". The contest has already received nearly 11,000 entries from Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Vietnam, India, Ghana, Benin, Spain, Finland and many other countries. The contest's best entries will be displayed at the fair, and the contest winners will attend the fair as guests.

The Soviet section of the 1983 book fair will comprise nearly 20,000 exhibits from 220 of the country's publishing houses, including more than 8,000 books from the national republics. All major Soviet publishers will have separate displays at the fair.

The classics of Marxism-Leninism will be given a central place on the display counters, and the works of Lenin—the most widely read and published author in the world—will be prominently displayed. The Soviet section of the fair will be putting on display a wide offering of publications discussing the ideas and propositions of the 26th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the May and November 1982 plenary sessions of the Central Committee of the CPSU. Also displayed will be selected works, speeches, and articles of the leaders of the CPSU and the Soviet government. A significant part of the socio-political literature will deal with questions of the theory and practice of developed socialism, the basic features and content of the Soviet way of life, and the CPSU's consistent efforts to carry into life the Peace Programme, achieve disarmament and preserve detente.

The scientific, technical and reference literature to be exhibited at the fair will reflect the newest attainments of Soviet and world science

On display at the fair will be the latest publications from a treasure-house of world and Russian classical literature. In connection with the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the USSR Writers' Union, a display of the classics of Soviet literature and the works of the leading contemporary writers and poets of the multinational Soviet state will be of much interest.

This year anniversaries of writers who have made a large contribution to the development of world culture will be marked by special editions. The authors include Vasily Zhukovsky, Alexei Tolstoy, Vladimir Mayakovsky, Stendhal, Katherine Susannah Prichard, Jaroslav Hasek, Boris Polevoi and Julius Fucik.

As always, the items enjoying unchanging demand abroad—children's, youth and sports literature, as well as the latest art books and albums--will be widely represented. Occupying a special place among these will be "The Lives of Remarkable People" series of Molodaya Gvardia Publishers, which will this year be marking its 50th year of existence.

The Soviet Union is one of the major publishers of books in foreign languages. A wide variety of literature in foreign languages will be displayed at the book fair by Progress, Raduga, Mir, Aurora, and Russky Yazyk publishers

The Soviet section of the 1983 Moscow International Book Fair's special international exhibition "The Role of Books in the Development of National Culture and Education" will present a display entitled "From Ivan Fedorov to Our Day", dedicated to the 400th anniversary of the death of Russia's first book printer. As decreed by UNESCO this jubilee will be marked this year throughout the world.

The General Directorate of Book Exhibitions and Fairs had received official applications, letters and telegrams requesting the reservation of exhibition space from more than 2,000 firms and organizations from more than 80 countries.

Publishers from Czechoslovakia, Cuba, the GDR, Hungary, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Poland, Laos and other socialist countries will once again be taking part in the Moscow Book Fair.

Applications to participate in the fair were received from publishing and copyright organizations from socialist countries, as well as from

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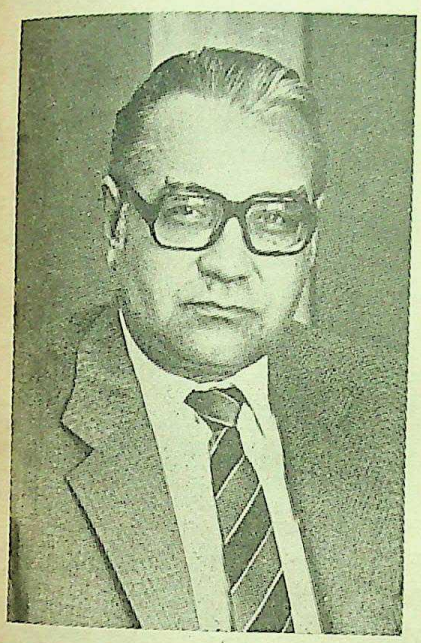
Sixty Years on the International Book Market



This year marks the 60th anniversary of Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga, the Soviet foreign trade association dealing in books. The following is our correspondent's interview with the General Director Yuri Leonov. Yuri Leonov was born in 1930 and has been at the head of the association since 1973.

In the twenties when Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga just began its activities, it had to overcome tremendous difficulties. This was not only due to the fact that we had little experience and very few staff members. The more serious obstacle was the foreign trade circles' mistrust of the young Soviet republic. Initially only a few foreign firms agreed to do business with us, but soon many of them were convinced that Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga was a reliable business associate. Its prestige on the world book market has grown continuously. Today we do business with over one thousand firms and organizations from one hundred and forty countries.

Looking back on our past, we feel proud that among our present clients there are quite a few who have been working with us for several decades. Those include the government agencies of socialist countries, the firms Central Books, Lawrence and Wishart and Collet's in England, Imported Publications, and Victor Kamkin in the US, ALAP and Le livre etranger in France, Brücken Verlag, and Kubon und Sagner in West Germany, Rubiños-1860, ITAKA. S A., and Editorial Ariel, S.A. in Spain, and Peoples Publishing House, Lok Vangmaya Griha and New Century Book House in India.

Today Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga is rightly considered one of the largest book trading firms in the world. Thanks to the huge volume of publishing in the USSR, we can offer our clients over 20,000 book titles in fifty languages annually. Their subject matter varies widely. They include books by the great Russian masters and by contemporary Soviet writers, children's literature, books on social, political, scientific and technical subjects, and textbooks.

Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga also offers its foreign business associates Soviet periodicals: the widely read newspapers *Pravda*, *Izvestia*, *Trud* and many others, and a rich selection of magazines in the languages of the nationalities of the Soviet Union and in over twenty foreign languages. Quite a few Soviet magazines are very popular among readers in other countries. These include *New Time*, *Science in the USSR*, *Soviet Literature*, *Culture and Life* and *Sport in the USSR*. The magazines *The Soviet Union* and *Soviet Woman* are especially sought after and are published in many languages. The two of them have a total export circulation exceeding three million copies.

Soviet people have always shown an interest in the history and culture of other countries. We do our part in satisfying that interest by importing books and periodicals from other

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countries. Each year over 70,000 book titles and 20,000 different periodicals are added to the collections in Soviet public and scientific libraries, circulated by subscription, or sold in book stores throughout the country.

The trade nomenclature of Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga is continuously expanding. In addition to books it includes postal stamps, slides, graphic works, paintings, and records. For example, we export products of one of the largest musical firms in the world, Melodia, to seventy-five countries. Its catalogue offers over 10,000 record titles.

Many Soviet recordings have received international prizes and awards. At a musical festival in Japan the recording of Dmitry Shostakovich's opera *The Nose* was awarded the Golden Record and in France over twenty Soviet recordings received Grand Prix from the musical academy Charles Cro.

Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga has mutual agreements with many firms on the delivery of tape recordings. Some of the larger firms and concerns in the music business are among our contractors : Polydor and Ariola in West Germany, Moss in the USA, Victor in Japan, RCA in England, Le Chant du monde in France and Disci Ricordi in Italy.

The foreign demand for Soviet stamps is growing. Each year the USSR Ministry of Communications issues over one hundred beautiful postage stamps and sets which are purchased by over sixty firms in forty countries of Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and America. For example, our business cooperation with the American firm J. & H. Stolow and the West German firm Hermann E. Sieger have been developing for over fifty years, and close commercial ties exist with the French firm Theodore Champion, the Belgian firm Jules Magidson and others.

Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga pays a great deal of attention to organizing exhibits of Soviet books, periodicals and other products of our export nomenclature in foreign countries. With the help of foreign firms and organizations we show over 15,000 large exhibits in foreign countries each year. Last year alone those exhibits were attended by over twenty-one million people.

The Moscow International Book Fair has become an important factor in commercial book exchange in recent years and Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga is one of its sponsors. During the 1981 fair in Moscow we signed long-term contracts and single agreements for export and import totalling over ninety million roubles.

Along with other Soviet organizations we are now preparing for a new meeting with our foreign business associates in Moscow. We hope that its commercial results will be even more significant for all participants than in the first three fairs. □

(*Contd. from page 8*)

such major foreign organizations and firms as the National Spanish Book Institute, the Plenum Publishing Corporation (United States), the American Institute of Physics, the Protestant Church-Owned Publishers Association (United States), the British firms Pergamon Press Ltd., Guinness Superlatives Ltd., Granada Publishing Ltd. and the Linguaphone Institute Ltd., and the Austrian firm Springer-Verlag. Applications were also sent by publishing and book-trade firms from India, Kenya, Syria and Nigeria. Taking part once again in this year's fair will be the Oxford University Press, the Italian Giunti Publishing Group, Elsevier's Science Publishers and Kluwer Academic Publishers Group.

The society for exhibitions and fairs (Börsenverein für den Deutschen Buchhandel, FRG), which will be the organizer of its country's publishing and book-seller firms at this year's Moscow fair, sent an application for participation on behalf of all the traditional West German exhibitors at the Moscow book fairs. It represents such firms as Springer-Verlag, Grossohaus Wegner & Co., Paul Parey Verlag, Kubon & Sagner, Econ Verlag GmbH, and others.

Besides these, exhibition space in the fair has been reserved by many firms and organizations from the United States, Denmark, Belgium, West Berlin, Argentina, Afghanistan, Angola, Guinea-Bissau, the Congo, Ethiopia, Tanzania, the Cape Verde Islands and from many other countries.

We are deeply confident that the 1983 Moscow Book Fair will make another contribution to the development of the international exchange of books in the name of peace, progress and mutual understanding among nations. □

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Bringing Nations Closer Together Through Cultural Exchange

An Interview with Vladimir Bogatov, Deputy Chairman of the Board of VAAP

Question. *What is the Soviet-Indian book exchange like today?*

Answer. There is a long and stable tradition of book exchange between our two countries. We have established close ties and achieved spiritual understanding through exchange of books. Suffice it to recall that Mahatma Gandhi considered himself a follower of Leo Tolstoy. Rabindranath Tagore published his interesting "Letters from Russia" after his trip to the USSR in 1930 The poems of the great Indian poet expressive of his civic courage and concern for the destiny of his native land have always found response in Soviet people's hearts.

Indian literature has long been for us a major source of information about India. As far back as the 18th century Russian readers were introduced to some old Indian literature such as *Bhagawadgita* and scenes from Kalidasa's drama *Shakuntala*, translated into Russian by the writer and historian Nikolai Karamzin.

Publishing Indian literature in the USSR on a large scale began in 1918 on the initiative of Maxim Gorky, who believed Soviet-Indian book exchange to be of great state importance. Started by Gorky, translation and publication of Indian literature flourished in subsequent years This is borne out by figures: the total printing of Indian books during the years of Soviet power is nearly forty million copies including almost 1,000 titles.

The Copyright Agency of the USSR and its Indian counterparts make a great contribution to expanding cooperation between our two countries. Among the Indian publishers that VAAP does business with are the Federation of Indian Publishers, the National Book Trust, Bingsha Shatabti, Vikas, Hind Pocket Books, Rajpal and Sons, Amerind, and Sterling. The number of commercial transactions increases with each year. All in all more than 400 works by Indian and Soviet authors have been published or are prepared for print according to VAAP contracts.

The very fact of devoting the whole issue of *Indian Book Industry* to Soviet publishing is another evidence of good fruitful relations between VAAP and its Indian clients.

Q *What Indian authors have been published in the USSR recently?*

A. First of all I would like to mention that Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru Gandhi's *My Life* and Nehru's *The Discovery of India*, *Autobiography*, and *Glimpses of World History* have been published in the Soviet Union in large printings. *Indian Foreign Policy* by Indira Gandhi published in Moscow to coincide with her visit to Russia in the autumn of 1982, has been widely acclaimed.

Works by Indian scholars and scientists have always been received with great interest in the USSR. Among the recent publications note must be made of Topal Singh's *The Geography of India*, a study into the Indian language policy by K. Gandhi, and L. Ramachandran's work on certain aspects of Indian food policy.

A number of books on subjects of importance for the Soviet national economy are currently being prepared for print. These include books on statistics, the use of liquid crystals, earthquake forecasting, etc. Mir Publishers are translating a series of studies by Indian scientists, such as the famous mathematicians P. Bhatnagari and K. Partasarati's books on the theory of non-linear waves and probability theory, and the monograph by the noted gerontologist M. Kakungo, *The Biochemistry of Aging*.

As could be expected, the larger part of book contracts concerns fiction. The fact that the Soviet Union widely publishes Indian prose and poetry is well known to Indian publishers and perhaps many more people outside the publishing business. There is no need to quote facts and figures illustrating this. I would just like to mention a few of the books to be published this year according to VAAP contracts:

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Basanty (*A Girl from a Delhi Suburb*) by Bhisham Sahni, *The Sounds of Indian Music* by Raghawa A. Menon, *In Quest of Beauty* by Narendra Nath Mitra, *The Gold Watch* by Ponjikkara Rhaephy.

We are gratified to know that Indian readers have always been just as interested in Russian and Soviet writers. The famous Indian writer Mulk Raj Anand wrote that Indian authors derived much inspiration not only from Russian classics such as Pushkin, Gogol, Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky and Chekhov, but from contemporary Soviet writers like Tikhonov and Sholokhov. Gandhi called Gorky "the great fighter for human rights", and Premchand said in 1936 that when learning entered every home Indian people would worship Gorky as it did Tulsidas and Surdas. The Indian literary critic Madan Lal Madhu has written a monograph on Gorky and his friendship with Premchand. VAAP has signed a contract for the publication of this book in the USSR.

The mutual enrichment of cultures got a further boost in our times. Suffice it to mention only a few of the many Soviet books to be published in India on VAAP contracts: *An Anthology of the Russian Soviet Short Story*, *The Siege* by Alexander Chakovsky, *An Anthology of the Armenian Short Story*, *Children's Stories*, etc.

Q. *What part is played by the Moscow Book Fair in Soviet-Indian Book Exchange?*

A. It has been commonly agreed that the Moscow forum of book publishers and booksellers is a major event in international cultural life. It is not surprising that the Moscow Book Fairs attract publishers from all over the world including India.

Indian publishers were amply represented at all previous book fairs. Let me remind you that at the 1981 fair in Moscow nearly 1,500 titles from 107 Indian publishers were exhibited. Twenty export and import contracts were signed between VAAP and Indian book publishers. Besides, Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga concluded some contracts with Indian publishers on mutual sale of published books worth over one million roubles.

This is ample evidence of the contribution made by the fair to the progress of Soviet Indian book exchange. Speaking of the fair it would be wrong to focus on its commercial results alone however significant they may be. Behind each business transaction or talk at the bookstands there is something immeasurably more important, something not to be expressed in figures. In the long run the main purpose of international meetings of publishers and copyright organizations is mutual enrichment of cultures and mutual understanding among nations.

Q. *Can you tell us of the progress of Soviet-Indian cooperation in other spheres of cultural exchange?*

A. Naturally our cooperation is not limited to book exchange; it also embraces music, art and drama. I would like to speak at greater length about exchanges of dramatic works. The first Indian play produced in this country was *Shakuntala* (1914) which was completely unknown in Russia at that time. That particular work was chosen because of its rich poetic imagery, deep penetration into man's innermost world, and perfect artistic form.

For many years it remained the only Indian play running on the Russian stage. But after India became independent works by its dramatists were more and more often produced in the Soviet theatre. For example, *A Clay Cart*, an excellent play by Shudraki has been staged in Baku, Andizhan and Moscow; *Shipwreck*, a dramatization of the novel of the same title by Rabindranath Tagore has been successfully staged in Daghestan and Uzbekistan; *Ramayana* has been running at the Central Children's Theatre in Moscow for 20 years now.

Productions of Indian drama in the Soviet Union have made a valuable contribution to the treasury of the Soviet multinational theatre. But its importance does not end here. No less important is the fact that the image of the Indian people presented in these masterpieces of national drama and re-created on the Soviet stage opened up Great India to Soviet audiences.

Russian drama has also long been familiar to Indian audiences. Plays by Chekhov, Gorky and Simonov are well known in India. VAAP deems it very important to introduce Indian theatre people to contemporary Soviet drama. Thus VAAP arranges trips of Soviet playwrights and directors to India and of their Indian colleagues to the Soviet Union. Some time ago we received a delegation of Indian theatre personalities who included B. Karanth, director of the National Drama School in Delhi, W. Tendulkar, a dramatist from Bombay, and stage directors H. Tanwir from Delhi and U. Datt from Calcutta. At the request of the Indian guests, VAAP arranged meetings with Soviet directors and playwrights, attended some performances in Moscow and Leningrad and studied methods of training actors at the State Institute of Dramatic Arts.

Here are the first results: Boris Chichkov's play *Unfinished Dialogue* has been produced in Calcutta, and four more Soviet plays are rehearsed.

We can say confidently that both the Soviet and the Indian side have done their utmost to provide an opportunity for our two peoples to learn more about each other and understand each other better.

I hope that the coming Moscow International Book Fair will be another sizable contribution to this noble cause. □

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SOVIET INDOLOGY

12 Zhdanov Street, Moscow, USSR—is an address familiar to those who take an interest in the life of the peoples in Asia and Africa, for it houses the Institute of Oriental Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and also the Oriental Studies section of Nauka Publishers. The section puts out about two hundred and fifty book titles a year on a wide range of subjects including philosophy, literature, politics, history and economics. The section's catalogues also offer references, textbooks on Oriental languages, catalogues and descriptions of old manuscripts, translations of folklore, and classical and modern Asian and African literature. The Editor-in-Chief of the Oriental Studies section, Oleg Dreier, has the following to say:

"India is a most interesting country. One has to agree with Indira Gandhi when she says that no other nation has such vast historical experience and so ancient a civilisation. It is no wonder, therefore, that there is in our country a long-standing tradition of interest in India, its history and culture.

"The Russian people got their first glimpses of India from accounts by Russian merchants and travellers as far back as the fifteenth century, when trade contacts between Russia and India were first established. One example of such an account is Afanasy Nikitin's *Journey Beyond Three Seas*. "He lived among the Indian people and formed close ties with them; this helped him to better understand our country and the life of the ordinary people," wrote Bisham Sahni about Afanasy Nikitin, the Russian merchant. Nikitin's account of his trip to India was, in fact, the first Russian book about India, and although it is hardly likely that the author meant it to be viewed as a piece of serious research, his work was destined to be an important source of information on India for a very long time.

"In Russia, Indology as a science appeared only at the end of the eighteenth century, on the basis of the famous Asiatic Museum in St. Petersburg, which by that time already possessed a great number of ancient Oriental manuscripts, including many Indian ones.

"Today, too, just as in those far-off times, Soviet Indologists show a very considerate, even reverent, attitude towards India's unique cultural heritage. Years of study in this field have brought numberless discoveries that help us to a better understanding of the Indian people, and in this way Soviet Indologists are making their invaluable contribution to the cause of promoting friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

"Most of the works by Soviet Indologists published in the USSR are prepared by our Oriental Studies section. We publish, in terms of book titles, about twenty Indian studies a year. Among the works published by our section are Mahatma Gandhi's selected works, *My Life*, selected articles and speeches by Indira Gandhi, a four-volume *History of India from Ancient Times to the Present Day*, translations into Russian of the *Rig-Veda* and *Upanishad*, and also textbooks of Hindi and Urdu. The printings range from three to ten thousand

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copies for scholarly works, and from 50 to 80 thousand for fiction. Our readers take a really great interest in literature on India, and the number of orders we receive from book-trading organisations is increasing from year to year.

"Apart from this, we have concluded contracts with such Indian publishers as Vikas, Arnold Heineman, and Visalandra for the translation and publication in India of works by Soviet scholars and scientists. Among these work are : *India Yearbook; Indian Economy: A General Survey* by a group of authors, a monograph by Bongard-Levin, *Ancient Indian Civilisation : Philosophy, Science, Religion*, and M. Andronov's monograph *The Dravidian Tongues*.

Indian Bibliography. (1968-1975). 165 pp.

This reference book continues the *Indian Bibliography. Early 18th. cent.-1967* published in 1976. It reviews academic, popular science and journalistic works on India published in the USSR from 1968 to 1975, including monographs, collections, articles from magazines and serial publications, translations of ancient and medieval literature and a list of dissertations on India.

A. Kutsenkov
The Evolution of Indian Castes. 320 pp.

This monograph is devoted to the history of Indian castes, their structure and functions and their influence on contemporary Indian social and political life. A separate chapter deals with the historiography of the caste system and the present state of research in this field.

A. Kutsenkov has for many years been the *Pravda* correspondent in India. He is now Editor-in-Chief of the journal *The Peoples of Asia and Africa*.

Ancient India: Its Cultural Ties (Edited by G. Bongard-Levin). 343 pp.

The articles in this collection study the important role played by India in the development of ancient Asian, and even African, states. Special attention is given to ancient India's cultural relations with Central Asia, where cultural monuments testifying to close and versatile ties between these two civilisations have been discovered by Soviet scientists.

I. Serebryakov
Bhartrihari, 128 pp.

To write the biography of a man who died thirteen centuries ago might seem an almost impossible task. The present book by I. Serebryakov, however, proves the contrary. Basing himself on material from Indian and Chinese sources, he fully reconstructs the life of Bhartrihari, the great Indian scholar and poet of the 6th-7th centuries.

K. Ashrafyan.
The Indian Town from the 13th to the 18th centuries, 320 pp.

Analysing the stages in the formation of the various strata of the Indian urban population, the author of the monograph views the sectarian and reformatory doctrines in Hinduism and Islam as the ideology of urban social protest. A special study in also made of the influence of European expansionist trade policy and the rule of the British crown on the history of Indian towns.

Periodicals

Asia and Africa Today

Meant for a broad readership, the magazine writes on important issues in contemporary social and political life on the two continents and discusses crucial issues in the ideological struggle. Much space is given to essays and reports on the culture, customs and various modes of life of the different peoples inhabiting Asia and Africa. The magazine is published monthly in Russian, and bi-monthly in English and French, and has subscribers in thirty-five countries.

The Peoples of Asia and Africa, an academic journal intended for specialists, is devoted to the problems of development in the countries of Asia and Africa both past and present. A large section is given over to information on scientific life in the USSR and other countries around the world.

For the benefit of its foreign subscribers, each issue provides a list of contents and a precis of the most important articles in English, French and German.

Published bi-monthly. □

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THE DISCOVERY OF INDIA

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Mariam Salganik, critic

Russian contact with India began long ago – one can mention Indian prayers in Old Russian *bylinas* and Afanasy Nikitin, the merchant from Tver, who visited India before Vasco da Gama and left for us his marvellous book *Journey Across Three Seas*. Several centuries later, the poet Vasily Zhukovsky was the first to translate into Russian "Nal and Damayanti", a chapter from *Mahābhārata*, and gave Pushkin the occasion to admire "the ringing pearls of the Eastern verse".

One can name Indian scholars who have devoted their lives, so that Russia may better understand India: Minaev, Oldenburg, Shcherbatsky and many others.

Although Russia was attracted for a long time by India's beauty, wisdom and mystery, the desire to find common features rather than exoticisms is felt in our attitude towards this country and its people.

However, only the October Revolution of 1917 heralded a new approach to the Indian subject, of which conscious internationalism became the basis. After the October Revolution, it was not the historical India that became the centre of our attention, but the modern India rising to the struggle for national independence; louder and louder came the call for solidarity in the fight for justice, supplementing the former idea of mutual gravitation of cultures.

In the cold and hungry 1920s, in a country riddled with the Civil War, intervention and ruin, Maxim Gorky painstakingly worked out a plan for a "Library of World Literature", repeatedly emphasizing how important it is that the Soviet reader should have a thorough knowledge of the classical and modern literature of foreign countries, including India.

In the past years, a huge amount of work has been done in the USSR on the translation and publication of Indian literature. Since the formation of the Soviet state, almost 1,000 titles of Indian books, with a total edition of 40 million copies have been printed in the USSR. "The country of avid readers", as the Soviet Union is sometimes rightly called, translates the Indian classics and modern works into 34 different languages of its nationalities. Moreover, Russian translations are very often the gateway to Indian literature for other socialist countries, which translate from Russian into their own language. However, the situation here is changing rapidly: both in the Soviet Union and in other socialist states, more attention is being devoted to the training of translators, so that the translations are done without an intermediary language, but all the same, in the foreseeable future, the Russian language will manifestly retain its role as a bridge of literary contacts, for socialist countries as well as for other nationalities of the Soviet Union.

Let me give an example I wrote down from a bibliography of Indian translations, opened almost at random: in 1953, a children's story by Krishan Chander, "The Upturned Tree", was translated from Urdu into Russian. The book touched the hearts of both children and parents. In 1958, "The Upturned Tree" appeared in Tatar and Lettish; in 1959, in Georgian; in 1960, in Lithuanian and Moldavian; in 1961, in Karakalpak, in 1964, in Ukrainian. Translations into all these languages were made from Russian.

A collection of Premchand's stories under the title *The Snake Stone*, within three years was published in Armenian, Kazakh, Tatar, Turkmenian, Ukrainian, Lithuanian, Uzbek and Estonian—after the

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collection had been translated into Russian.

Rabindranath Tagore's novel, *Shipwreck*, was translated into Uzbek, Azerbaijani, Byelorussian, Kazakh, Lettish, Tajik, Turkmenian, Estonian, Moldavian, Ukrainian, Ossete and Lithuanian, not counting the fact that it was included in Tagore's collected works in Russian. A dramatisation of the novel was successfully staged in the Khamza Theatre in Tashkent.

One could say that Tagore found his second homeland in Russia: the total edition of his works, both poetry and prose, has reached six million copies.

Studying bibliographies is both a fascinating and instructive occupation: by this means, it is possible to see the geographical scope of our Indian translations and the growth of our understanding of the spiritual culture of India.

We began with the translations of writers from North India, but now South India is coming into the limelight. Vallathol and Sankara Kurup, Shivasankara Pillai Thakazhi and Pottekkat have brought the life of Kerala to the attention of the Soviet reader; on the bookshelves appeared translations from *Tirukkural*, works by Akilon, and a delightful collection of Tamil classic lyric poetry, *Verses on Boxwood Leaves* brought out in 1979 by the Nauka Publishers. Vasamurthi's fantasy tale, "The Wonderful Journey of a Mischievous Child", translated from Telugu, printed by Moscow publishers Detskaya Literature, has an edition of 1.5 million copies, and this is already the third edition! The poems by Devarakonda Tilak first appeared in *Inostrannaya Literatura* (World Literature), (a monthly magazine with a circulation of more than 500,000 copies), but in 1979 were included in a collection, *Contemporary Indian Poetry*, brought out by Progress Publishers.

The work of the wonderful Bengal poet, Subhas Mukerjee, published in Russian, have an edition of 100,000 copies as a supplement to the popular illustrated weekly magazine, *Ogonyok*.

The American poet, Robert Frost, very aptly said how difficult it is to translate poems, when, to the question 'What is poetry?' he replied, 'that which disappears in a translation'.

Nevertheless, the success of Russian translations of Amrita Pritam, Harivanshrai, Bachchan, Umashankar Joshi, Ali Sardar Jafri, Shrikant Varma, Raghuvir Sahai, Karandikar and others—show that, despite the unavoidable loss, the translators have succeeded in retaining the spirit of the poem.

The most important thing in a translation—especially when trying to convey the spiritual values of a nation so different from us culturally—is getting across the general and universal, whilst preserving as far as possible that which is particular and unique to that nation.

Trying to look out for interesting phenomena in modern literature, we are carrying out an extensive and difficult work—the research and translation of Indian classics, the eternal creations of the Indian genius. This work had already begun in our country before the October Revolution, but it has acquired real scope only in recent decades.

We can rightly feel proud of our excellently and meticulously translated *The Upanishads*, *Dhamapada* and *The Jatakas*, the scholarly translations of *Mahābhārata* and *Ramayana* and their literary versions. Quite recently, there was a prose version of *Ramayana* published in Ukrainian, while in Moldavian *Mahābhārata* appeared as a narrative in verse.

Nauka Publishers printed Bhartrihari's *Shatakatrayam* and Khudozhestvennaya Literatura Publishers produced an anthology of lyrics under the title *A Pearl Necklace*, a longed-for supplement to the earlier publications of medieval Indian literature.

The problem which researchers and publishers face when preparing classics for publication in a country which has a different cultural tradition from India is exceedingly complex: it demands absolute mastery of the material at hand and the ability to make it accessible to the reader who may have no such specialist grounding. Naturally, this cannot be done through simplification—we deal with works which have stood the test of time.

Perhaps the rich harvest of serious and very well written books, released now by Nauka Publishers, can be explained by the need to lead the broad readership deeper into the Indian cultural context, by the need dictated by the ever increasing interest literally in all aspects of life in India. In 1982 alone, there appeared A. Kutsenkov's *Castes in India*, B. Yerasov's *Socio-cultural Traditions and the Social Consciousness in the Developing Countries of Asia and Africa;* A Litman's *Traditions of Philosophic Naturalism in India.*

Looking back, you realise that a fair amount has already been done, looking forward—you see how much still remains to be done. The literary discovery of India leads us even further and further, and even more titles are drawn on our country's literary map.

The era of great geographical discoveries has passed—we already know much about our planet. The age of spiritual discoveries will never end while we are alive. The fate of planet Earth depends on us, the people who populate it—the rapprochement of nations through the translations of each other's literature inspires the hope that this fate will be a happy one. □

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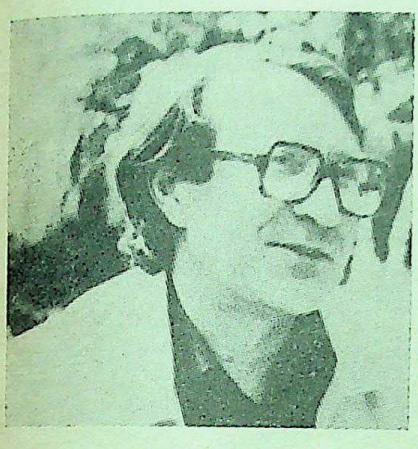
The Practical Concerns of Science



Academician ROALD SAGDEYEV, Vice-Chairman of the Council for Coordinating Information on the Advances of Science, discusses the practical significance of recent major advances of Soviet science.

Some of the recent publications could give our foreign business associates much information on the subject.

To begin with, I should like to say something concerning the development of science in this country. The fundamental research in the USSR is directed and coordinated by the USSR Academy of Sciences, which also makes suggestions on how the findings should be applied in practice. Science can, therefore, develop according to a single plan, considerably shortening the distance between experiments and the commercial introduction of the results. This effective interaction between science and society, in the impact exerted by the new social conditions on the progress of research, are described in *Socialism and Science*, the work of a team of Soviet and Czechoslovak scientists. The book has been published by Nauka, a publishing house attached to the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Space research, e.g.—what could, on the face of it, appear farther removed from our earthly concerns than space orbits? Yet, space has been serving the Earth long and faithfully Its many contributions include weather forecasting, the transmission of television and radio information, the study from space of the earth's surface and subsoil, and even forest fire control. Many of these matters are treated in *Space Development in the USSR, 1980, Space for Science and the Economy*, recently put out by Nauka Publishers. The volume contains data on space and earth exploration carried on from the Salyut-6 orbital station and Prognoz-8 automatic station, and by artificial earth satellites of the Kosmos series, meteorological and communication satellites. Another case in point, referring to the advances of modern physics, is *Nuclear Power, Man and the Environment*, put out by Energoizdat Publishers. It has been edited by the President of the USSR Academy of Sciences, A. Alexandrov. The authors, staff members of two important Soviet research centres—the Kurchatov Atomic Power Institute and the Institute of Biophysics—drew on the data of numerous theoretical and experimental studies, analysing the results of the operation of nuclear power plants and assessing the effect exerted on man and the environment both by the nuclear fuel cycle and the power complexes fired by organic fuel. After considering, point by point, all questions related to the effect of nuclear power on man and the environment, the authors proceed to give specific recommendations on what the nuclear power industry has to do to provide for the "purest" possible energy production.

A. Sharov has had a very interesting book brought out by Nauka

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Publishers, *Andromeda Nebula*. It presents the first fairly complete summary of what is known about our nearest spiral galaxy. Also, I should like to mention the popular science series issued by the *Kvant* magazine. In *Codes and Mathematics*, M. Arshinov and L. Sadovsky introduce readers, in a lively and easy-to-understand style, to the principal concepts and ideas of the theory of effective and noise-immune coding. Y. Blinov and S. Pikin give an exciting account of the wonderful world of liquid crystals (*Liquid Crystals*). Other issues of the "Kvant Magazine Library" also merit attention.

In the area of applied mathematics, I should like to mention, above all, the series of works by Academician G. Marchuk, which includes *Mathematical Modelling of the Environment*, *Mathematical Models in Immunology* and *Mathematical Modelling of Virus Hepatitis*. They expound a new approach to processing medical and some other kinds of data and to studying the dynamics of processes in progress by mathematical methods developed for the purpose.

Modern urbanization and its social effects are discussed in *Systems Analysis and Urban Development*, edited by Academician D. Gvishiani and published by Nauka Publishers. It brings the ideas of systems analysis to bear on the study of three dimensional structures.

Now the Soviet Union is engaged in carrying out its Food Programme, designed for the period up to 1990.

The Food Programme covers a vast complex of interconnected problems. At different stages of its progress, most of the branches of modern science will be stepping in to promote some part or other of the complex. It will involve economic and technological research and a wide range of biological sciences ing, and the biotechnology of the synthesis of protein and biologically active substances. An interesting book in this respect is *Soil Fertility and Its Improvement*, by Kolos Publishers. It summarizes the results of field experiments carried out over a period of years, which were undertaken to study the means and methods of developing different kinds of soil, with accounts of zonal features and specialization of crop production The efficient fertilizing of soils of different potential productivity is discussed.

Kolos Publishers are preparing another fundamental study covering a wide range of problems involved in the development of agrarian-industrial complexes. I am referring to Professor A. Smolyanov's *The Integration of Science, Technology and Production in Agriculture*. It offers an exhaustive discussion of the integration of science, technology and production, its purpose and forms, it shows how the three are related and how they interact, what the theoretical principles are of the introduction in agriculture of scientific discoveries and studies, and, lastly, what are the natural features and principal lines of development of industrial technologies. On the strength of his study of the performance of the already functioning "science-technology-production" integrated systems, Professor Smolyanov analyses the conditions for their further development in agrarian-industrial complexes.

Books by Soviet breeders have been published in many countries. The interest in them is quite natural. Some Soviet works have become classics in this field, especially the works of Academician V Remeslo, Academician L. Ernst and F. Eisner, Corresponding Member of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences: L. Ernst and A. Tsalitis, *Large-Scale Livestock Farming* (Kolos Publishers), *The Theory and Practice of Breeding Pedigree Stock* (Urozhai Publishers, Kiev) by Eisner.

Medicine has lately made much progress, employing techniques and methods borrowed from allied sciences. That is not surprising Medical research at the cell level just has to fall back on the methods, instruments and other means employed by mathematicians, physicists and chemists These all come together, as it were, in cardiological, ontological, gerontological and ophthalmological research.

In their scope and pioneering approach, some of the recent books lead the way in the world of science. They reflect fairly fully what has been accomplished in Soviet science, demonstrating its contribution to progress. □

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What do Children in the USSR Read?

"There is not enough children's books"—fifty years ago such complaints could frequently be heard among parents of young children in the USSR. True, in those years the selection of children's literature was very narrow. The country's printing industry could not satisfy the demand even for the few books which were published. What changes have occurred in that field in recent years? Our correspondent interviews Anatoly Alexin, one of the most popular children's writers.

Question. *Children in the Soviet Union read a great deal. What is the reason for the younger generation's passion for books?*

Answer. "Our children do indeed read a lot because we teach them to love books. Reading plays an extremely important role in the Soviet system of education. It is called upon to awake and develop the lofty feelings of goodness, nobility, inquisitiveness and a respect for work in a child. That is why we try to implant a love for books in a young person at a very early age and work to see that he retains that wonderful feeling all of his life.

Soviet publishing houses deserve a lot of the credit for developing that love for books. During the years of Soviet rule over twenty billion copies of books for young readers have been published. This figure does not include textbooks. At present over two hundred publishing houses in the Soviet Union print children's literature in seventy languages of the Soviet nationalities. In each republic there are publishing houses which specialize in publishing books for children. One example is Detskaya Literatura Publishers in Moscow, long one of the largest publishers of children's books in the world. In the Ukraine Veselka Publishers cater for children and youth, and in Uzbekistan this is done by Eshgvardia. The list could go on.

The editions of books for young people in the USSR are huge. There are series of books, for example "My First Book", with editions of two million copies (that is for each book in the series). The prices of children's editions are very low. I can say with assurance that any Soviet family can afford a home library for children.

Q. *Maxim Gorky called Soviet children's literature "A Great Power". Obviously he meant that huge scale of publishing.*

A. Not only that. Soviet children's literature is a unique phenomenon in its varied genres as well as in its huge editions. Children's literature include prose, poetry, drama, criticism, popular science, adventure and film scripts.

Books are published for each age group of young readers. That is only natural when you consider that the world of a four-year-old is significantly different from that of a ten-year-old. For very young children Soviet publishing houses issue beautiful books with short texts and many colourful and vivid pictures. We can't imagine today's childhood without books by Kornei Chukovsky, Sergei Mikhalkov, Agnia Barto, Samuel Marshak, Vitaly Bianki, Lev Kassil and Nikolai Nosov.

They have created many veritable gems of children's literature teaching

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youngsters to understand those moral truths without which it is difficult to become a full-fledged adult.

For young readers works are published which give information on new discoveries in the fields of science and technology and those devoted to complex moral, psychological and international problems. And how many books serve to educate youngsters aesthetically, telling them about the lives and works of great writers, artists and composers!

Soviet children love funny, witty books and the marvellous childrens' writers such as Nikolai Nosov, Victor Dragunsky and Yuri Sotnik write just those kinds of stories. They are funny, but at the same time very serious. Humor, as I have already written more than once, is sometimes the best way for serious problems to reach a young person's consciousness.

Scores of children's magazines and newspapers are published in the USSR, and in each republic these are in the national languages The editions of those publications are enormous as a rule. For example, the circulation of the young children's magazine *Vesyolye Kartinki* (Merry Pictures) has already surpassed nine million and the circulation of *Murzila*, a magazine for 7 to 9 year olds, is over five million.

Q. *It is well-known that such great writers as Leo Tolstoy, Pushkin, Lermontov and Chekhov wrote for children as well as for adults. Are today's children familiar with their works?*

A. Without a doubt. Those works are our standards. Acquaintance with the classics make our children competent inheritors of that which past national and world cultures have compiled for them.

I should mention that Soviet publishers try to give our children access to the best works of children's literature by the progressive world masters. Books by the Swedish writer Astrid Lindgren, the English story-teller Milne, the Finnish fairy-tale writer Tuve Jansson, not to mention works by the world renowned brothers Grimm and by Hans Christian Andersen, are a part of the home library of almost every Soviet family. And I could name quite a few others.

Q. *Do you think that children's writers can discuss complex and even tragic problems in their books?*

A. Children don't live in an isolated world. They live in a world of adults where love, hate, gallantry, nobility, compassion and cruelty exist. I think that a young person needs to be told the truth about everything that goes on in the adult world around him. But it goes without saying that young people of different age groups have to be told things in different ways, taking into consideration the specifics of their perceptions.

By the way, there are several limitations in children's and young people's Soviet literature and we are proud of them. You won't find one Soviet book with even a line advocating the ideas of hatred for one's fellow man, racial superiority or the use of force. Works of Soviet authors always inspire ideas of humanism. In that they differ from many books found in the West which corrupt young minds. That is probably the worst crime being committed against tomorrow's generations.

In many Western countries I was horrified to see almost pornographic publications for pre-schoolers. That kind of moral freedom at such a young age poisons the minds and hearts of young people and destroys faith in the sanctity of human relations.

Q. *Soviet literature for children and young people is being created by many different writers. I know that in Moscow alone there are over two hundred children's writers. How prestigious is it to be a children's writer in the USSR?*

A. It seems to me that prestige is not only the number of awards a writer has received, although I am happy to inform you that we have special prizes in children's literature and art (the Lenin Prize and the USSR State Prize among others). It is highly stimulating for those who devote their strength and inspiration to it. That prestige is neither measured by royalties, though the material rewards for writing books for children and youth are high. I think a more significant stimulation is readers' acknowledgement and love. We receive thousands of letters from the very readers for whom we live and work. We meet with young people at readers' conferences and see that literature has become an inseparable part of the lives of our children. That is probably one of the greatest joys for us!

Q. *Your works have been published in many countries and have been translated into almost fifty languages. You have received many international prizes and awards. I think the foreign reader would be interested to know what you are presently working on.*

A. My new story "Signalmen and Buglers" has just been published in the magazine *Yunost* (Youth).

Right now I am working intensely on plays for children's theatres, and there are over one hundred and fifty in the USSR, all made up of talented professional groups. This year saw the premiere of my play "The Late Child" at the Central Children's Theatre in Moscow. □

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Yuri Dmitriyev

Neighbours on the Planet

In Four Volumes

Yuri Dmitriyev (b. 1925) had an unusual start in his career: his first book The Green Patrol *(1957) started a countrywide movement, "The Green Patrol", in defence of the natural environment, with several hundred thousand school children participating. Thus the book proved to be a powerful tool in teaching children a loving and rational attitude to nature.*

The theme of environmental protection is Dmitriyev's favourite subject, one to which he devoted most of his books: *Man and Animals*, *The Big Book of the Wood*, *If You Look Around*, *There Is but One Earth*. The book we offer here is the writer's latest. The first volume is devoted to insects, the second to amphibia and reptiles, the third to mammals, and the fourth to birds. Each volume abounds in useful and interesting information about various classes of animals, and each is illustrated with bright pictures, which will give children an idea of the perfect shapes and colouring that nature provided for our neighbours on the planet.

The arrangement of all four volumes is the same: in each book Part One is entitled "Problems" and tells of the issues arising between man and the animal world. Part Two, titled "Parade", introduces the reader to various animal species, their habits and way of life. The chapter on "Man-Animal Relationship" describes the extermination of animal species in various epochs. The tragedy of the rhinoceros, the elephant, the bison, the zebra, the tiger, the monkeys, and many other beasts are related with hair-raising veracity.

The chapter "The Problems of Saving Animals" speaks of man's efforts towards this end, and gives examples of the saving of some species threatened with extinction, such as the koala, the saiga and the sable; it also describes new methods of running animal preserves and zoos, and protecting wild life with the help of space satellites.

Why is it so important to protect the earth's fauna? This question is answered in the chapter "Expediency". Dmitriyev looks at the role of animals in the life of man, the problem of ecological balance, and some of the recent scientific breakthroughs in this field.

The principal means of animal protection is a kindly and intelligent attitude towards them, the author insists. There is no doubt that this highly readable book will inspire deep concern for our neighbours on the planet.

Ekaterina Markova

A Strange Call

A Short Novel

Ekaterina Markova, a popular cinema and theatre actress, has now made a successful debut as a writer.

A doorbell rings in the flat of a young woman. It is a plumber called in to repair some damage in the plumbing. The young woman recognizes her classmate in the man. She was once in love with him and he used to be the most promising student in the class. But when the boy's mother fell terminally ill he had to leave school and go to work. Thus they parted ways.

The young woman is in a state of turmoil. She looks back on her life and comes to realize an awful truth: that she is partly to blame for Igor's misfortune, and that it made an impact on her own life as well.

"I have always been amazed at adults' ability to perfectly understand the situation but still act contrary to common sense. I was amazed until I myself grew up and, understanding everything fully well, still acted contrarily," says the heroine. Once she betrayed Igor by rejecting his love but now she sees how wrong she was.

The novel develops on several planes at once and the psychological motivations of the protagonists are extremely complicated.

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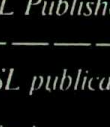

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Sergei Mikhalkov

A Serialised Dream

A fantasy

Sergei Mikhalkov (b. 1913) is widely known in the Soviet Union and abroad His works have been published in many languages, and their total printing has topped 130 million copies. His works for younger children won Mikhalkov the Lenin Prize.

Little Lyuba was a great sleeper. Unlike other children, she never had to be coaxed into bed—she was only too glad to go there of her own free will. The reason for this was the amazing things she dreamed of every night This book is the story of one of her dreams.

Lyuba dreams of coming to a wonderful land populated by Andersen's heroes. An old toy-maker makes her a present of a wooden nut-cracker. With Lyuba's help the Nut-Cracker is transformed into a dashing officer and sets out to deliver his country Jokonia from the vicious rule of the Mouse King.

Mikhalkov's heroes meet many hazards along the way, for the work of fighting evil-doers is never easy, but their selfless courage and the help of their friends enable them to achieve their aim.

Mailen Konstantinovsky and Natalia Smirnova

How Cloth and Yarn are made

Intended for children this book describes the mysteries involved in weaving and various techniques of textile making. The book is lavishly illustrated in bright colour pictures which are happily combined with an absorbing and highly readable story about the traditional raw materials for the textile industry, such as cotton, silk, flax and wool, and the secrets of synthetic textiles like glass cloth and glass reinforced plastic, the stone-hard asbestos cloth, and even electrically heated cloth.

At the end of the book the authors address their little readers, "Now maybe you would like to invent a new cloth with some unusual and useful qualities?" Perhaps some young readers will be inspired enough to do just that.

Spiridon Vangeli

Stories about Gugutse

After Vangeli published his book The Adventures of Gugutse *in 1969, he went on to the next book, which was in no way connected with his mischievous hero. But, according to the author, "Gugutse kept intruding into my work and doing mischief to the best of his ability." His hero, it would seem, had no intention of letting himself be relegated to the bookshelf. His sentiments were shared by many a young reader, who kept clamouring for more stories about Gugutse. And so Vangeli found himself writing* Granddad's Minister, Gugutse the Sea Captain, Gugutse's Desk, the Barber, My Darling Sonny *and* The Frontier Guard—*all about Gugutse.*

Spiridon Vangeli graduated from a teacher training college and for several years was a schoolmaster in a Moldavian village. He was a good teacher, not merely conscientious in executing his duties, but truly kind and understanding with children.

Kindness and understanding of child psychology are also the salient features of his literary work. His hero Gugutse is a sincere and artless boy who lives according to his own scale of values. And, remarkably, he is very self-critical and strongly inclined to self-analysis.

Although the author seems to be concerned mainly with Gugutse, he has also produced vivid characters of adults and children and shown the life of the present-day Moldavian village.

Vangeli understands that a child's life is one constant discovery of the world and of himself. Everything that happens around is interesting and important. There is the winter and the summer, there is a barber and a pilot, new and fascinating people, there is the hurt of insult and the beauty of kindness. Vangeli's heroes are disposed for happiness and joy and

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motivated by insatiable curiosity. Books like Vangeli's support young readers in their dreams, while adult readers find themselves jolted out of orthodox attitudes.

Spiridon Vangeli's work has been highly appraised beyond the borders of the Soviet Union as well: on the decision of the International Council of Literature for Children and Young People he was awarded the Andersen diploma for his book of stories about Gugutse *Granddad's Minister*.

Anatoly Alexin

Division of Property

A story, 36 pp.

"Alexin always has deep respect for his young hero. That is, apparently, why he is able to delve so deeply into an adolescent's inner world, which is often inaccessible to adults. And, by revealing this world to us, the writer makes us take a closer look at ourselves and the people around us."

N. Yelistratova, critic

The heroine of this story, Vera, had the misfortune to be born a weak, sickly child who lagged behind in her physical development. In their concern for her health and preoccupation with doctors and medicines, her parents seemed to have forgotten that she was also a person, somebody who needed to shape her own attitude to life. It never occurred to her father and mother that they were doing their daughter great harm with their daily reminders of her illness and their cautionings about avoiding all strain. By their misplaced protectiveness they might have firmly implanted the inferiority complex in the girl's mind were it not for her wise, patient and kind grandmother, who helped Vera to believe in herself and to conquer her illness.

The girl became strongly attached to her Granny, understanding that she owed her "second birth". In her jealousy, seeing that Granny had become the most important person in her daughter's life, her mother went to court, demanding a division of property with the grandmother. As she leaves to attend the court proceedings, Vera writes in a note to her parents: "I shall be that part of property which will go to Granny."

The story is intrinsically about moral deafness, which, unfortunately, still wreak havoc in some families.

Vladimir Zheleznikov

Freak

A story, 206 pp.

Vladimir Zheleznikov started writing for children in early 1960's. He has by now published the collections of short stories: The Multicoloured Story *and* The Knight, *and the short novels* Good Morning to Good People, A Traveller with Luggage, Every Person Wants to Own a Dog, White Ships, Salty Snow *and* The Last Parade. *In his books he describes the life of modern children, without glossing over awkward problems and never striking a false note.*

"Granddad! . . . Dear Granddad! . . . Let's go away from here! . . . For good!" These desperate words are whispered by the heroine as she runs headlong home from school. What has happened to drive the girl to such extreme despair?

Lena is a new girl in her form, she has only recently come to live in the old Russian town on the bank of the Oka. And her form has decided to ostracise her for treachery and gave her the humiliating nickname of 'Freak'.

Somebody has "ratted" to the teacher about the form cutting one of the lessons to make a group visit to the cinema. Lena knows it was done by her friend Dima, and she is so sorry for him that she takes the blame on herself. She hopes he will muster courage to own up to his class-mates, but the form is up in arms against Freak, and Dima, far from clearing her name, actually takes part in Lena's baiting.

The outcome of the incident is quite drastic. Instead of her class-mates teaching Lena a lesson, she teaches a lesson to them. They discover with dismay that she is not guilty, but even more impressive is her refusal to take part in ostracising the real culprit. "You won't make me bait anyone! Ever!" In the end the children shake off the intoxication of vengeance, but still Lena goes away with her Granddad, who leaves to the local museum his collection of pictures.

Lena's class-mates are vividly characterised, each an individual with his or her own world view. They are no longer children with good or bad inclinations, they are near-adults, some intrinsically good, some not so good.

The central problem of the story is that of decency, dignity and honour.

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Vasil Bykov

To go and Never Return

Vasil Bykov (b. 1924) has been awarded the USSR State Prize for his stories Obelisk *and* To Live Till Dawn. *Stage productions and screen versions have been made on the basis of his books, which have been translated into Arabic, Bengali, Bulgarian, Chinese, Croatian, Czech, English, Finnish, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Romanian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian, Turkish.*

Vasil Bykov, critics believe, is ruthlessly analytical in his books, putting his characters in situations in which they have little choice, if any, and leaving them no room for compromise. The war faces the heroes of the story, Anton Golubin and Zosya Nareiko, with the hard and simple choice between death and betrayal; either renounce the homeland and live or remain loyal to it and die. It is at this point that they part ways.

The writer delves into human psychology at a time of enormous emotional stress, which provokes extreme and desperate actions that can be admired or detested, and arouse a whole gamut of various emotions. That is just what happens in the case of Zosya and Anton.

When Zosya, wounded by Anton, is crawling across a snow-field towards a village, she thinks: "Why is he like that? Was he born that way? Or was it life that made him what he is?" These thoughts reveal Zosya's major characteristic: kindness and justice are equal to her because she was raised in this way by her mother, by school, by life in general. That is why there is nothing strange either about her patience with Anton, or about her forgiveness, or about her unwillingness to sit in judgement on him. This is the weakness of kindness, the living memory of everything that has bound these two: their short love, and trust that the other cannot cut you off and betray you. . . .

Like every new book by Vasil Bykov, *To Go and Never Return* attracted the general reader and drew lively response from reviewers. The Ukrainian writer Yevgen Gutsalo said about Bykov: "Why are the pictures drawn by him never forgotten but linger in the memory of both mind and heart? The ashes of the dead are pounding in my heart. . . ."

Eno Raud

Stories

Eno Raud is a leading children's writer of Estonia. He is the author of nearly thirty books. Many of them were published in translation in Poland, Finland, Sweden, France and other countries. For the book Muff, Half-Shoe and Moss Beard *Eno Raud has been included in the Andersen Honorary International Register.*

This collection includes three stories—"The Incident of Flying Saucers", "Signal Lights on an Island" and "Light in a Blackout City".

The first story consists of three independent episodes. Its heroes are several Estonian boys and a girl preoccupied with the idea of space travel and firmly convinced that visitors from another planet have had a hand in what is happening to them. The children are well-versed in space subject and eager to put their knowledge to a useful end. The tone of the author is humorously kind and slightly mocking.

"Light in a Blackout City" is partly autobiographical and tells about adolescents launching a stubborn and dangerous struggle against nazi occupationists during the Second World War.

"Signal Lights on an Island" is an adventure story placed in the present day. Four schoolchildren and a very little boy go on a visit to their grandfather, who is an ornithologist and lives alone on a little island. They find the grandfather away and themselves cut off from the mainland.

Eno Raud's heroes are children of fertile imagination and bubbling with energy, and they have a tendency of landing in situations which offer no ready way out. "Whatever I write, tales, stories, plays or film scripts, I always want to discuss with my reader serious moral problems of human communication, particularly responsibility for one's actions. What I primarily aim at is to develop in a child the ability to think for himself."

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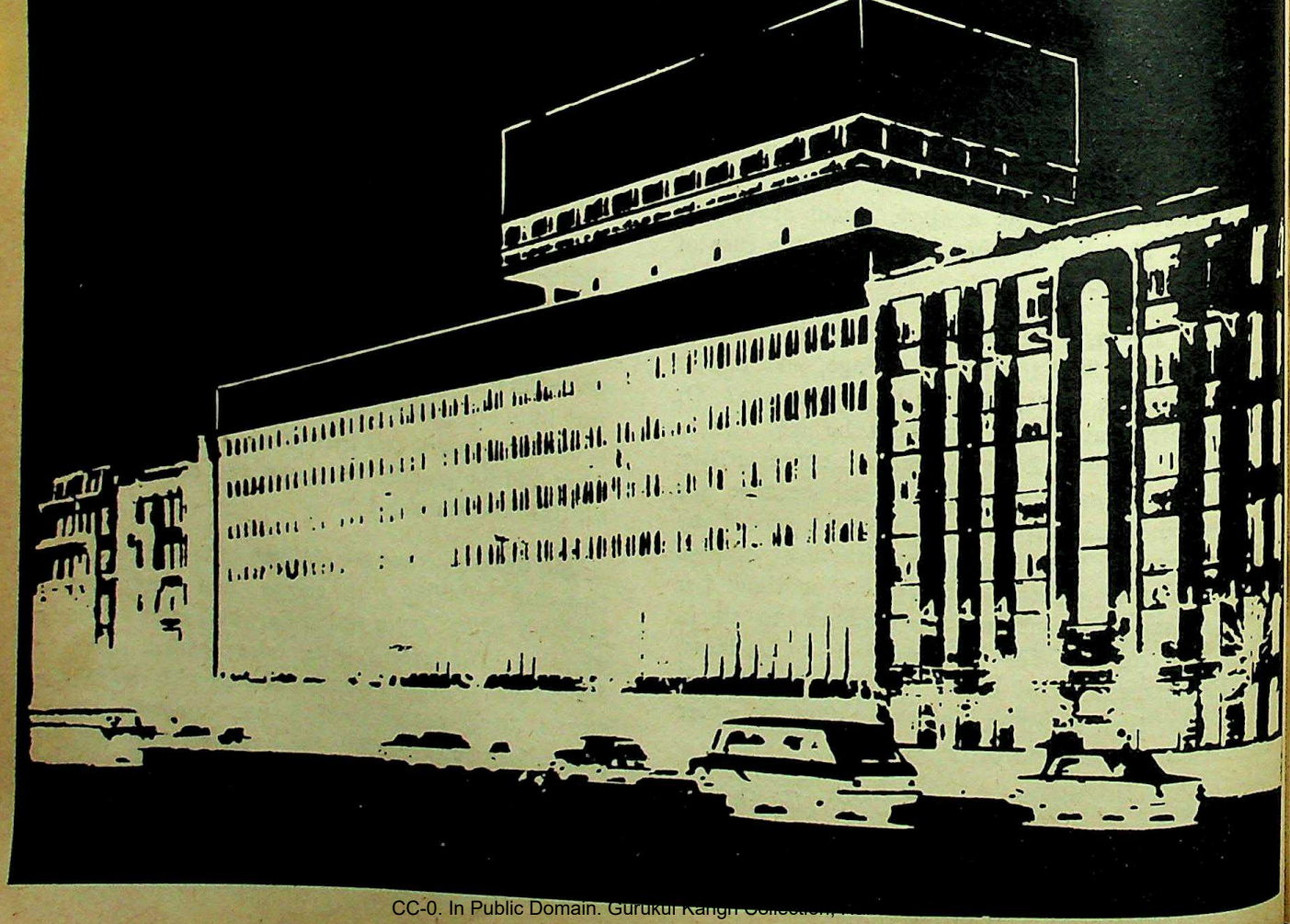

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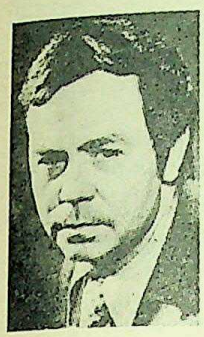
Love as Long as You Live



Valentin Rasputin (b. 1937) is winner of the USSR State Prize. His books have been translated into Bulgarian, Chinese, Czech, English, Finnish, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Romanian, Slovak and Swedish.

The new collection of short stories by the well-known Soviet writer includes both stories written some time ago and those produced in recent years.

His stories are set in our day and his characters come from different age groups and walks of life. But they have one thing in common, namely, a special sense of life and of one's relationship with it which is expressed in the symbolical and meaningful title of the story after which the collection is named. The old saying "learn as long as you live" was rephrased by the writer to express his basic attitude in life.

Velentin Rasputin's stories are pervaded with a sense of kindness and love, and the characters who are closest to the writer in spirit are spontaneous and natural in all their actions, particularly in their relations with children.

Children in Rasputin's stories have unchildlike perception and complex mentality; relations with them are gratifying and meaningful but the slightest falsehood or even lack of attention can destroy the miracle of sincere heart-to-heart communication for a long time, if not forever.

This is precisely the point of one of the best stories of the collection, "What do I Tell the Crow?" It says that man should always try to attune to the feelings and reactions of others, and that he should watch his step not to destroy the wonderful world of fairy-tale he has created for the child.

A girl wants to carry on a play, a tale of the crow her father has told her, but he is in a hurry and preoccupied with his own problems—and the sensitive and tactful child closes up.

The Law of Eternity

Nodar Dumbadze (born 1928) is winner of the Lenin Prize, the Komsomol Prize and the Georgian State Prize. His works have been translated into English, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Mongolian, German, Polish, Slovak and Czech.

The Law of Eternity is the attempt of a mature writer and no longer a young man to answer the question "How should one live?" Along with Dumbadze, the main character of the novel, reporter and writer Bachana Ramishvilli, who is recovering from a heart attack in a hospital, ponders that eternal problem.

A major part of the novel is devoted to his endless philosophical arguments with his hospital room-mate, the clergyman Ioram. They both want to see man spiritually perfect and happy but there is a basic difference between the reporter and the priest. Father Ioram limits his demands to moral self-perfection while that is too little for Bachana. He is constantly struggling to rebuild reality on a just basis and to create conditions which allow for the discovery and realization of the best in man.

One must prepare for the battle with evil from childhood. It is a difficult and cruel process which sharply changes the correlation between light and shadows in the surrounding world. In *The Law of Eternity* Bachana Ramishvilli passes through the fires of self-knowledge. Someone must stand up against evil and he is one of those who will do that first: as a boy who had to shoot a murderer and deserter during the Second World War, as a teenager, unafraid to defend the honour of a girl from a drunken gang of adults, and as editor of a newspaper who refuses to give in to force or threats or bribes. Those were all steps in his uninterrupted moral ascension.

In his office a real battle goes on and tremendous spiritual strength is needed to oppose extortion, bribe-taking, scheming and narrow-mindedness. His editor's desk seems to draw in the difficult problems of life flowing outside the office window.

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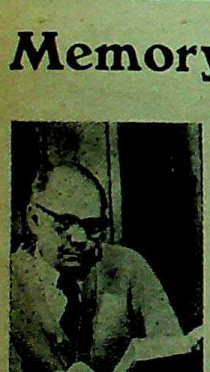
The struggle in which Bachana Kamishvili is engaged is not abstract and has a definite humane and social meaning. "A man's soul is a hundred times heavier than his body. . . In fact it is so heavy that one man doesn't have the strength to carry it. That's why we must try to help one another. I'll help you, and you'll help someone else, and that process continues indefinitely." Bachana tells a medical professor about his discovery of the "law of eternity" and answers the question: "And you hope to realize it in life?" the only way he could: "If not there is no use living."

Nodar Dumbadze loves to talk about things and uncover their primary, genuine meaning. He energetically defends discovered truths and loves to mix the humorous and the bitter, reminding us of the many rhythms in our lives. He is not afraid of sentiments It is a literary style, but more importantly, a sign of the writer's burning desire to talk about what he himself has experienced and felt.

His heroes sometimes seem idealistic and Don Quixote-like. But then don't idealists and Don Quixotes bring colour to the endlessly changing panorama of today's sober-mindedness.

Vladimir Chivilikhin

Memory



Vladimir Chivilikhin (b. 1928) is a well-known Soviet writer. In the 1950s-70s he published the short novels Hello, Mum, About Klava Ivanova, Chips and Needles *which were awarded literary prizes. Their common theme is the relationship between Man, Society and Nature.*

In this novel Vladimir Chivilikhin turns up layers of Russian history little known to the general public, bringing forth from obscurity significant names and facts. An unorthodox approach to many problems and the desire to release history from its "academic" bonds and make it the property of society in the broadest and most literal sense of the word (and, consequently, of every individual member of society) singles out this new work of Chivilikhin's as a significant phenomenon both in literature and social thought.

The author makes his readers stop and ponder: *who were my ancestors? what did they do for my country? who am I? what is the purpose and meaning of my existence?*

The past lives on in us, but it is obscured by the concerns and worries of the current day, all the little things which occupy our attention and give us no chance to stop and take account of things occurring within us and in the world outside, to take cognizance of the current of history bearing us along, whose source lies in distant ages.

In *Memory* Chivilikhin writes about the Decembrists whose life's exploit only began in St. Petersburg in 1825, when they led out insurgent troops into Senate Square. The author revives for us little known pages in the biographies of the Decembrists and their descendants. Some events are subjected to close scrutiny, others are just mentioned in passing, the chronology is sometimes scrupulously observed and sometimes violently disrupted, the reader finding himself hurled into a very different epoch at the call of a sudden association or an episode suddenly surfacing in the author's memory. No sooner do we come to know the Decembrists and their families, than we take leave of them to go exploring with the famous travellers Nikolai Miklukho-Maklai and Grigory Grum-Grzhimailo; as sudden is the transportation from ancient Russia to the days of the Second World War.

But the longest route the reader traverses together with the author is the one covered by the Mongol troops across the steppes and mountains of Central Asia into the land of the Chzhurjens and from there over the snowbound Russia of 1237.

Chivilikhin defined his work as an essay-novel. But this original work could be with equal right described as a monologue-novel or a monograph-novel. It seems to represent an entirely new genre, brought forth by our modern impetuous tempo of life. This genre demands of the author not only talent and keen vision but also a vast store of knowledge, independent thought and bold judgement. Chivilikhin, to give him his due, possesses all the above-named qualities.

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Oralkhan Bokeyev

The Songful Sand-Hills

Oralkhan Bokeyev is a Soviet Kazakh writer, winner of the prize of the Kazakh YCL for his play "The Foal" (1976) the author of the collections of stories Glacier Mountains *(1975) and* The Pleiades *(1971).*

The boundless expanse of the steppe merging with the horizon and indifferent to all and sundry, where a man is but a speck . . .

Action in the stories by Oralkhan Bokeyev included in the collection *The Songful Sand-Hills* takes place, as a rule, in the steppe. The vast Kyzylkum desert is for Bokeyev not only a means to test the mental and physical stamina of his heroes but also an emotional environment in which the author and the hero tackle complex and eternal questions of the meaning, purpose and content of being.

. . . Old Darkhan has been a linesman on the Zhylandy siding for forty-five years, a good and conscientious worker. And when the artless and trusting Darkhan is swindled by a passing con man, his neighbours come to his aid to a man. The story is entitled "Trains Pass By", but people will never pass by a person in need (here, by the way, lies the more than outward resemblance between Bokeyev's story and Chinghiz Aitmatov's famous novel *A Day Lasts Longer than an Age*).

A desert in Bokeyev's stories is a kind of vast proscenium on which a seemingly simple but in fact highly dramatic human destinies are enacted, the lofty mingling with the lowly and the ridiculous with the tragic. This is expressly true of the story "The Songful Sand-Hills", whose hero, the shepherd Barkhan has taken years to discover his human dignity, his sense of inner worth.

Bokeyev's stories vary widely in style and idiom, ranging from true-to-life episodes of the everydays to lyrical narratives with strong folklore motifs; precise signposts of today in one story give place to parable-like absence of clear local and temporal reference-points; topicality rubs shoulders with flashbacks into the Kazakhs' distant past.

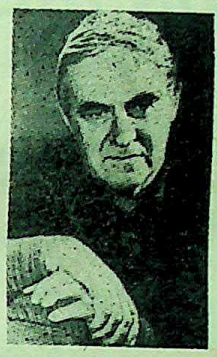
But whether placed in the modern environment, as "The Snow Girl", or retrospective and reminiscent, as "The Echoes of Youthful Days", Bokeyev's stories are invariably coloured with hope and joy, with youthful expectation of happiness and love.

"The nomad caravan was moving east. The road was long, the steppe vast and the life all too short. . . ." This is the concluding passage of the story "The Legend about Mother Aipare", one of the best in the collection.

The reader is sure to remember the road he has traversed with the caravan of Bokeyev's stories.

Daniil Granin

This Strange Life



Daniil Granin (b. 1919), has published many novels and documentary fiction and won the USSR State Prize for his novel Klavdia Vilor. *His books have been translated into Albanian, Bengali, Bulgarian, Chinese, Czech, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Hungarian, Korean, Norwegian, Polish, Romanian, Serbo-Croatian, Slovak and Slovenian.*

The main character of *This Strange Life* has not been invented by the writer. Using the story of biologist Alexander Lyubishchev to show that everyone of us has vast untapped potentialities, the writer asserts that man can and should have an understanding of his own self.

Granin knew Lyubishchev personally but, as he confessed on more than one occasion, was unable in his youth to give that remarkable person his due. Years were to elapse before he wrote this story as a lesson of selfless service to science and loyalty to ideas and convictions.

This is the story of Time and a man who managed to use it to the maximum benefit. For fifty-six years Lyubishchev had been analysing and perfecting his relations with Time, regarding it the most precious gift of nature.

He was constantly assailed by questions: How to live? How to make good use of one's time? and What

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should time be saved for? And he developed his own system of relations with Time.

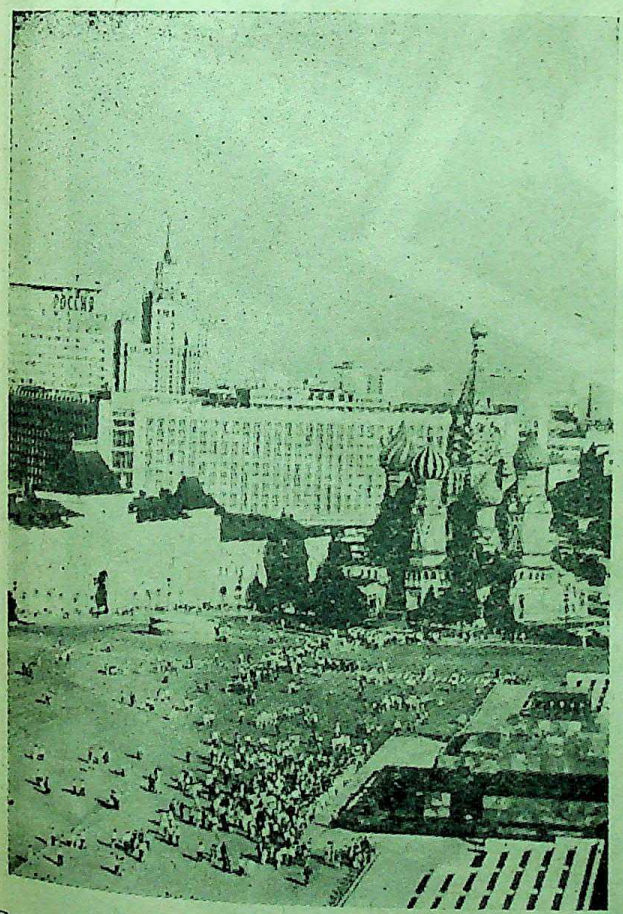
As a warning of sorts, the writer depicts another character—an automaton-like "holder of a high academic degree in science and head of the TV control board at research centre No. so and so", who preaches pragmatism and exemplifies the so-called man of business . . .

Every day in the life of Lyubishchev seems "to be absorbing sun with its every pore" and the flight of every minute becomes the flight of thought . . .

Critic Valentin Oskotsky wrote: "The message of many of Daniil Granin's works is that man's intellectual quests are invaluable. He prefers to build his plots around situations in which his heroes make a moral choice."

Grant Matevosyan

Tashkent



Grant Matevosyan is a Soviet Armenian writer. His tales and short stories We and Our Mountains, Mother Goes to Get Her Son Married, Your Family *show the writer's breadth of vision suitable for the novel. He is widely published in various languages in the USSR as well as abroad.*

Matevosyan's new work *Tashkent* (published in the journal Druzhba narodov, No. 7, 1982), like the rest of his work, is not distinguished by any intricate plot. Tevak, a herdsman, known locally as Handsome Tevak, from Matevosyan's favourite Armenian village Tsmakut, prepares to visit Tashkent. This event comes under heated discussion by his family and by others in the village, so heated that in the end we do not even know whether he has gone or not. . .

The complexity of the matter is due to the fact that Handsome Tevak is one of two herdsmen left in Tsmakut, and he cannot be replaced even for the time he will be gone. People are moving out of the small mountain villages, lured by the attractions of city life. A giant chemical plant is being built next to Tsmakut, and, naturally, it is going to need labour forces. People, of course, have the right to choose, for they are needed just as much on the construction site as in the town. And so desolation gradually overtakes Tsmakut. And Handsome Tevak also yearns to get away.

Tevak's departure is to some extent an escape from the stagnation of life under the old-style commune system with its specific principles of mutual responsibility come what may. A conspiracy of passions and relationships whose roots hark back to the past emerges in the behaviour and antics of the dramati personae who are not prepared to accept the journey to distant Tashkent. The rebel is not threatened with anything serious, he is free in his actions, but it is no easy task to break loose from age-old relationships. Are there always quick answers to questions a man's life poses before him?

The work of a herdsman in the mountainous regions of Armenia is far from easy. People are by no means saints in their personal relationships. But there is an element of truth in Tevak's words addressed to his fellow herdsman: 'It does not matter how you live. . . You shouldn't have to torture yourself like this. . .' There is a great deal of truth in his companion's words: 'We do not have the right to forsake what we still have from the olden days and from our forefathers'.

Paradoxically, the hero's self-discovery comes into conflict with the interests of society. But Matevosyan is not a sociologist, he just bares the human soul in one of life's tense dilemmas. The writer, though, does not condemn his main characters. "Now that they've arrived to this day, what will happen to them next?" This sentence brings the story to a close.

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Chinghiz Aitmatov

A Day Lasting Longer than a Century

Chinghiz Aitmatov (b. 1928), won the Lenin Prize for his Tales of the Mountains and Steppes, *and the USSR State Prize for his novels* Farewell, Gulsary *and* The White Steamer. *His works have been translated into Arabic, Bengali, Czech, Dari, Dutch, English, Finnish, Gujarati, Hausa, Malay, Marathi, Nesi, Persian, Serbo - Croatian, Senegalese, Spanish, Swahili, Telugu.*

As the epigraph for his new book, Aitmatov took words by Armenian 10th-century poet, Grigor Narekatsi, "This book is like my body, and this word is like my soul". *A Day Lasting Longer Than a Century* is an organic blend of several philosophical, psychological and social themes, interposed on the reality of a railway siding located somewhere in the desolate, wind-swept arid steppe. Few trains make stops here and only a handful of people live here. One of them is Edigei Zhangeldin, a man with enough strength and wisdom to withstand the rigours of life. He stands firmly on the land of his ancestors and helps others not to give up.

Edigei strikes the reader by his wholesome nature, high moral standards, rock-firm principles. His words are born of much thought and sound like prophecy.

His love for Zaripa is the love of a married man and a desperate woman, pathetic and doomed like love in ancient legends which abound in the novel, comprising another plane of the narrative and giving the novel a poetic aura.

Cosmos is another theme prompted by Aitmatov's concern for the future of the Earth and mankind.

Chinghiz Aitmatov wrote in one of his earlier books about a man who had lost his memory and who also loses conscience as a result, because memory and conscience are interdependent. In this book the author tries to prove that people without memory cease to be human beings, forget their names and relations and become "mankurts"—a word coined by Chinghiz Aitmatov for people without memories.

Soviet critic Viktor Lakshin hailed Aitmatov's novel as "An event in Contemporary Literature which opened a new dimension of creative thought and reached a new vintage point."

Otar Chiladze

And Anyone Who Meets Me...

Otar Chiladze (born 1933) is a Georgian poet and prose writer. His first book of poetry, Trains and Passengers, *came out in 1959 and was followed by the books* Clay Plates *(1963),* A Child Played at the Guest's Request *(1968),* Nine Poems *(1969) and the novel* A Man Walked Along the Road *(1972-83).*

Otar Chiladze has chosen a complex structure for his new novel *And Anyone Who Meets Me....* He examines one hundred years in the life of a Georgian family of the last century, a time of great social upheaval. Comparisons with Garcia Marques's novel *One Hundred Years of Loneliness* are inevitable, especially since Chiladze handles time rather freely and the illusion that yesterday and today exist simultaneously is quite strong. However, the parallels with the work of the famous Colombian are not as deep as one might think. The book was written by the Georgian writer to tell his people about their people.

"And anyone who meets me... will kill me," Kaikhosro Makabeli, the main character says with bitterness and fear, realizing the failure and futility of his long, meaningless life. Everything in it was false—the major's uniform in which Kaikhosro arrived at the village of Uruki; the armed attempt to defend the widow Anna and her son Georgi from her lover; his marriage to Anna, the inevitable result of the incident; their relationship, full of mutual hatred; and his relationship with his son and grandsons who were denied the simplest human warmth while growing up. In reality the name Makabeli and the prince's title, are also false, since they were given to Kaikhosro by his adopted father. And the two-story house he built to shock the village, is permeated with the permanent smell of lies and terror.

Right until his final days Kaikhosro Makabeli fears bloody revenge because he raised a pistol at the mountain-dweller, but if we look more carefully, his fear runs much deeper. When Kaikhosro was a child of five, enemy soldiers had slain his family before his

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very eyes. His heart never thawed out. He does not recognize any power in the world other than force and evil, and he is not open to feelings of love or mercy.

There is a remarkable foreign clock which resembles a tower in the huge two-story house behind the high fence, but the passing of time there is an illusion.

The novel might have remained simply a variation on an eternal theme if the writer had not abruptly and unexpectedly introduced a change in his narration. The house without love is so gloomy that it becomes an all-encompassing metaphor representing the very essence of life in the enormous tsarist empire. Kaikhosro's grandsons rebel against that life, and remove the inveterate curse from their family.

The idea that the doomed family is a reflection of the cursed and unjust world is not immediately evident to the reader. It appears gradually, by degrees, and flares up when we witness the unendurable spectacle of human suffering and corrupted lives.

Otar Chiladze's works are not comforting and his view of man is often sceptical. It is the scepticism of a philosopher, for in leading his characters through the cruel trials of life the writer tests the limits of our spiritual and moral fortitude.

And Anyone Who Meets Me... is a philosophical novel and convincingly shows that man can only improve for the better simultaneously with the restructuring of the world along the lines of justice.

Victor Shklovsky

The Power of Delusion

Victor Shklovsky (b. 1893) is a historian and critic writing on the history and theory of literature and the cinema. His works have been published in translation in practically all European countries, Latin America, Mexico, the US and Japan. In 1979 the second edition of his book about Einstein received the USSR State Prize.

The Power of Delusion is a product of the author's life-long reflection on art, literature and life. He analyses the problems of structuring the plot, inner monologue and the time sequence on the basis of concrete works by Pushkin, Gogol, Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky, Chekhov, Dante, Cervantes and Shakespeare.

He compares Chekhov's *Sea Gull* and Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and arrives at most original conclusions...

"The Power of Delusion" is a term suggested by Leo Tolstoy. It spells joys and setbacks of creative work and the eventual attainment of faith in oneself by overcoming doubts and despair.

Shklovsky's studies range from antiquity to modern times but it is Leo Tolstoy's works that have elicited most of the critic's attention—he has devoted nearly all the sixty years of his scholarly endeavour to "reading" Tolstoy.

Shklovsky has original and convincing ideas about the structuring of the plot and shows the controversial and complicated road Tolstoy passed from conceiving such works as *Anna Karenina*, *The Cossacks*, *Holstomer*, *Resurrection* and *Hadji Murat* to writing them.

The power of discovery and man's search lie at the heart of this book, full of what may seem unexpected but well-thought out and logically substantiated associations, dazzling aphorisms and paradoxes As in his other books, the critic ingenuously correlates the structure of a literary piece with aesthetic thinking of the time of its creation.

Alexander Chakovsky

Victory

Alexander Chakovsky (b. 1913) is winner of the Lenin and the USSR State Prizes. His works have been translated into English, Finnish, German, Iranian and Spanish.

"There is an invisible link," Alexander Chakovsky says, "Between what happened then and what is to happen Tomorrow."

"Then" was the post-war conference of the Big Three in Potsdam in the summer of 1945. The negotiations were held in strict secrecy, no journalist or writer were allowed to be present. The decisions made in Potsdam had for many years determined the

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destinies of mankind. And it is for this reason that it is so important to look back at that, not so distant, past and to try and see in it our future.

Chakovsky studied attentively the documents published in the past three decades as well as the archives and first-hand evidence of those who had anything to do with conference, and thus was able to show its work day after day, hour after hour. He succeeded in re-creating the tense atmosphere of controversy over the negotiation table and to give readers the invaluable feeling of being in the thick of historical events.

Depicting Stalin, Truman and Churchill, the writer happily avoided the temptation of painting them either white or black.

For all the importance of the Potsdam Conference, it is only a starting point in Chakovsky's project. After his many-volume novel about the past war, *The Blockade* (1979), the writer decided to give a broad panorama of the post-war period in his novel *Victory*, which has covered events from the Potsdam Conference of 1945 to the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe held in Helsinki (1975). His aim is to show in this way the logic of historical development.

Georgy Markov

To the Coming Century

Georgy Markov (b. 1911), novelist and playwright, is winner of the Lenin and the USSR State Prizes. His books have been published in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, France, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania and Spain.

The new novel by a leading Soviet writer deals with our times and aims primarily at depicting a new type of a party official.

It opens with a psychologically tense episode of the sudden death of Pavel Polosukhin, First Secretary of the Sinegorye regional party committee who had been running the region for sixteen years. Who is to take his post?

This situation enables the author to give an idea of the high demands laid on party officials.

Georgy Markov adopts a dialectical approach to portraying his characters. Sobolev, who is to become the new party secretary, is a particularly stimulating personage. He gets down to business by studying people, keeping in mind the rule that success depends on one's initiative and daring in tackling complicated issues.

A sharp psychological collision occurs when Sobolev meets the regional authorities, which reveals the true worth of the new secretary and shows the complexity of the existing situation in the regional leadership. Quite unexpectedly this sheds a new light on the former secretary Polosukhin.

Markov is keenly concerned over the problem of rationally utilizing the local natural resources, of being thrifty with the natural wealth. The narrative gradually adds to the picture of the full-blooded and dynamic life in Sinegorye, a region in Siberia. New trends have the upper hand in all the spheres because people inhabiting the Siberian expanses well match their rich and rigorous land.

Jaan Kross

The Emperor's Madman

Jaan Kross (born 1920) is an Estonian writer who has been publishing since 1938. He is the author of several collections of poems: Coal Concentration Specialist, Stone Violins, Songs on the Foredeck, *and* Miracle Making Rain. *Since the end of the 1960's he has been writing historical novels and has published the novel* Three Plagues *and the tetralogy* Between Three Epidemics. *He is the winner of the Freidburg Tuglas, the Juhan Smuul and the Estonian prises.*

Jaan Kross's recently published novel, *The Emperor's Madman* is definitely his best. Its transparent, clear, yet complex form (the novel is a clever stylization) enables us to come closer to the historical period in which the action takes place and to the eventful lives of the main characters.

As is often true of Kross's works, the novel is based on actual facts, and the plot revolves around a person who actually lived. The story line is a fascinating one, and doubly so when you consider its authenticity.

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INDIA

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It is the beginning of the 19th century. We are at the magnificent court of the Russian Emperor Alexander the First in Petersburg. The young aristocrats from the Baltics, Von Bok Timoti, or, to be absolutely official, Timoteus Von Bok, is an aide-de-camp (and that was a high position). He is clever, educated, dignified and completely honest, so there was nothing surprising in the fact that the monarch turned to him with a rather unusual request, or rather order—to speak the truth and nothing but the truth about the empire and its sovereign.

But the gentleman from the Baltics took the Tsar too literally. After writing the requested memorandum, he ends up in solitary confinement in a fortress on a secluded island, where he spends nine years.

To the novelist's credit, he does not overplay the situation. The novel is written in the form of a diary by a certain Jakob, the hero's brother-in-law, and that form of narration has its own, rather strict rules. We will note in passing that the stylization is a superb one. We feel we are reading the thoughts of a man of that era and of that social level.

The book is concerned with the age-old conflict between the proper and the actual in the human soul. Von Bok is unfamiliar with agony of that kind. He acts only according to his understanding of things and his deep, honest convictions. From that point of view, his memorandum critical of the empire and his marriage to a peasant woman are simply aspects of one and the same phenomenon. Not knowing internal vacillation, the hero enters into a cruel struggle with his surroundings, the government, and with the gentry, in short, with the whole of upper society.

After leaving the dungeon where he spent nine years (the official reason for release was that he had lost his reason), Von Bok continues his truly titanic struggle until his death. He gives up wealth, comfort, his rights as a land-owner, anything, but never his convictions. His "accidental death" at an ancestral country estate is completely logical. Eventually the empire would have killed anyone it couldn't break or buy.

The pages of the book which concern the after-prison life of Timoteus Von Bok create an eerie atmosphere. We are ready to believe in the main character's insanity and it seems that there is an additional confirmation—his writings which are void of any logic. But suddenly we learn that he has encyphered a brilliant piece of philosophy which exposes the empire in all its corruption and decay. This is where the stylized mastery of the novelist comes to the fore.

The novel has another story-line. All the circumstances point to the fact that Von Bok and his family should escape abroad. But the trip keeps being put off and we are ready to think, as Jakob does, that Von Bok is losing strength and that his will and ability to fight are weakening. But again our initial impressions are proved to be wrong. Von Bok wants to stay to be the "thorn in the empire's side".

Fazu Alieva

Red Larks

Russian translation from the Avar

The Eyes of Kindness

Russian translation from the Avar

The author of these two collections of poetry is one of the most popular poets in Daghestan. Even her lyrical verse has an important social message.

Red Larks is a miscellaneous collection: here we find the enchanting "Ballad of First Love" and the famous "Tale of the Stone Cloak," the heroic narrative poem, "Ballad of an Old Sabre" and a sad and moving story in verse, "The Blue Beads".

Many of her ballads are based on Daghestani stories that have for centuries been passed from generation to generation by word of mouth.

Some of these are lyrical and others humorous or instructive tales brimming with comedy and filled with wisdom. The poems—"In Smolny" and "Forty-Five Minutes"—are dedicated to the memory of Lenin.

The Eyes of Kindness includes Alieva's lyrics of the last few years and a narrative poem entitled "Ascent". "Real passion, an almost electric power of feeling and a capacity for genuine compassion—these are the qualities distinguishing her as a poet, and also as a person," writes the critic, Vladimir Turkin. "Indifference is out of the question with her, only involvement and dedication." *Her poems are usually action-packed narratives.*

Fazu Alieva (b. 1932) is a winner of the State Prize of the Russian Federation.

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Time, The Winged Horse

Verses, a long poem, fairy tales, a tragedy

Hero of Socialist Labour, winner of the 1972 USSR State Prize for the poetical collection *Following the Years*, and the 1967 Stanislavsky State Prize of the Russian Federation for the tragedy *On the Night of the Lunar Eclipse*.

The poetry of Mustai Karim is rich in philosophic meditations on the meaning and purpose of life.

He reflects on the past years and the mysterious irreversibility of the flow of time. The title of his book is a line from his verse. A winged horse—a fairy personification of time—takes the reader and the hero up a steep mountain path that leads from the war years to the present day.

Almost all the poems written by Karim are the answer to the question he poses to himself and, consequently, to the reader: "*What is your contribution to your epoch, to your country?*"

The poet avoids superfluous imagery and ultramodern poetic devices Nonetheless, his verses appeal to the contemporary reader "even though", as one of the critics observed, "the only 'technological miracle' which can be found in his verses is an old-time steamboat."

The book includes poetic cycles infused with the poet's impressions of his travels. Verses on Vietnam", "Czechoslovak Notes", "Bulgarian Notes", "Kabardian and Balkar Notes".

Karim's lyric hero bears his share of the responsibility for creating a better world According to the poet's moral code, man's supreme virtue is his "sacred feeling of moral obligation"

The author believes that poetry should bring to people "at least a flicker of light".

The poet seeks to encourage, support, and help all those who are unhappy. All the deeds of his lyrical hero are aimed at "cheering the world". He does not want to, or rather, he cannot, pass by "tears and sorrow". In his "Verses on Vietnam", he describes the Vietnamese soldiers who liberated their country from the invaders

Karim devoted his poem "Black Waters" to the soldiers who died in the war The author's message is that their heroic deeds will cause them to be remembered among men, and thus there is no room for treason and baseness. "Oblivion is worse than death!" exclaims the poet.

Mustai Karim reflects the literary traditions of his people in the originality of his approach, in his use of traditional Oriental poetic devices and in his love of aphorisms. "The noble simplicity" of Karim's verses is the result of his productive development of Bashkir national classical traditions. He chose national material as the basis for his wise and slightly ironical fairy tales "Smile" and "Mystery". His tragedy "On the Night of the Lunar Eclipse" describes the love story of two young people and the cruelty of the ancient laws that forced them to part.

The *Zvezda Vostoka* magazine called Karim's verses "melodic, gentle, and deep in thought".

Mustai Karim (b. 1919) holds the honorary title of the People's Poet of Bashkiria. He is the author of many books of poetry, plays and fairy tales. Among his better known published works are collections of poetry *Flowers on a Rock* (1949), *Spring Voices* (1954), *Shores Never Move* (1966), *Waiting for Good News* (1976), *Hold Your Torch, Prometheus!* (1979), and his short novel *A Long, Long Childhood* (1979).

L.R. Polonskaya, A.K. Vafa

The Orient: Ideas and Ideologists

Nauka Publishers, 1982

The book deals with the fundamental processes in the ideological and intellectual life of newly-free states. The authors consider a typology of bourgeois and petty-bourgeois ideological conceptions in countries of the Orient. They analyse some of the more widespread theories of social progress in these countries, such as that of "Indian national socialism", the "Islamic path of development" and the "third path" of development, showing the effect of these theories on the socio-political development of the new states.

The authors reveal the social trend of the "third path" of development notion and the general and specific features of liberal and conservative notions and of reactionary and progressive tendencies in the ideology of the middle class.

Discussing the development of the new states, the authors stress two features. First, a change in the character of the fundamental national task: they

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rightly consider that today the major aim of a developing country is to overcome backwardness and rid itself of the heritage of colonialism and of various pre-capitalist relationships. Second, a change in the character of strictly social tasks, which is tied in with the fact that the struggle against the various defects and negative traits of capitalism which revealed themselves on national soil came into the open as a result of the aggravation of antagonisms in the framework of bourgeois progress. Both of these tasks are originally linked. The multitude of "national socialism", "religious socialisms" and other conceptions reflect the diversity of specific alignments of class forces as well as the attempts to test various variants, models and ways of solving national tasks.

Since approximately the second half of the 1960's the national liberation movement entered into a new predominantly social stage, which was to a large extent furthered by a change in the balance of forces in the world arena, primarily the transformation of world socialism into a decisive factor of contemporary development.

The advancement of the social factor into the centre of the entire social process in Asian and African countries gave a new impulse to the strengthening of the ideological and political struggle. Under conditions when the political participation of the masses in social life widens, revolutionary-democratic theories proclaiming an orientation toward socialism become highly significant. Their main characteristics lies in the fact that they consider social problems central for the transformation of society.

The appearance and evolution of such theories is a complex and sometimes uneven process. Among them there are those that closely approach the ideology of scientific socialism and those that still have a long way to go in that direction.

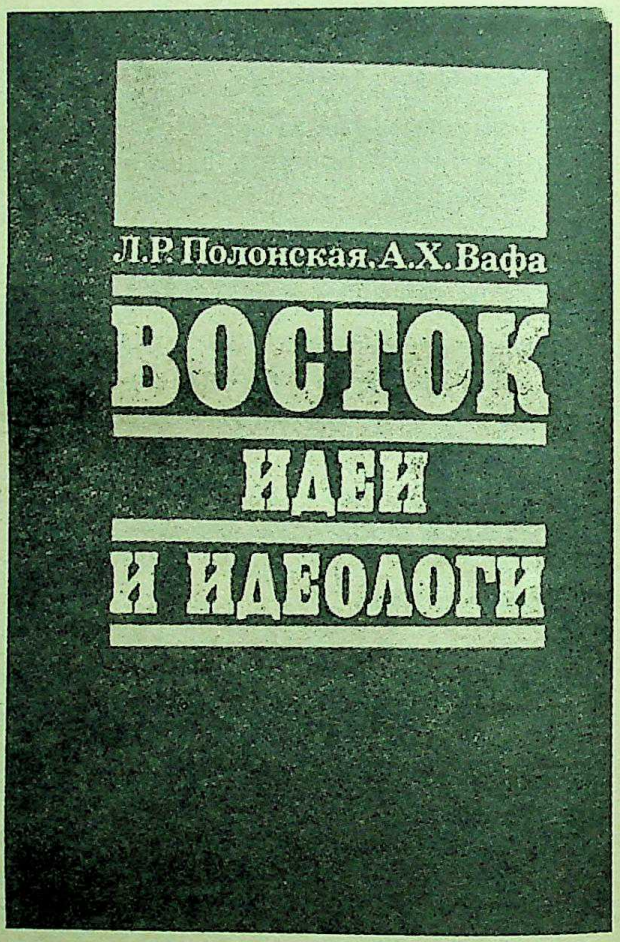
An analysis of the ideological and political situation in the emerging states leads the authors to conclude that no ideological movements in the African and Asian countries can ignore the ideas of socialism. All significant shifts in the intellectual life of the peoples occur under the growing influence of existing socialism and of the revolutionary process as a whole.

The authors of the book give an in-depth analysis of the ideological views of Mahatma Gandhi and show the reasons why the leader of the Indian national liberation movement had such great influence on the masses. The book gives particular attention to the teachings of Jawaharlal Nehru, his deep humanism and democratic nature, as well as the third path of development ideas for which he draws on many theoretical points of Gandhi's legacy.

The authors also examine Muhammad Iqubal's notion of "Moslem nationalism" and his ideas on "Moslem socialism", which still have an influence on the formation of "third path" development notions in Islamic regions.

The Socialist Orientation of Liberated Countries

Mysl Publishers, 1982



This manifold work by Soviet specialists on international affairs analyses the preconditions for socialist orientation, the conditions contributing to the embarkment of developing countries onto this path and the experience of different states.

Creatively developing the teaching of Marx and Engels, Lenin substantiated the actual feasibility of a non-capitalist development for peoples liberated

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from imperialist domination. These countries can arrive at socialism not through capitalism, as in Europe and America, but through bypassing it altogether or through shortening the capitalist stage. The possibility of choosing various paths of social and economic development arose after the collapse of the colonial system, a collapse which proved possible only as a result of a fundamental change in the balance of forces in the world arena to the benefit of socialism. The countries of socialism and particularly the Soviet Union play an enormous role in demonstrating the huge advantage of the socialist system. Of special significance today for emerging states is the fact that existing socialism, having organically linked the solving of the problems of economic growth and the all-round cultural development of nations with the solving of social problems and the realization of the age-old aspirations of working men about social justice, has ensured gigantic advancement along the path of social progress.

The book contains much factual material about the progressive changes which occurred in different corners of the world under the influence of the Great October Socialist Revolution in Russia in 1917. In 1919, or two years following the October Revolution, colonial or semi-colonial countries occupied 72 per cent of the land mass of the earth and accounted for 69.4 per cent of the world's population. After the end of the Second World War the figures were 29 per cent and 30 per cent, respectively. By 1980 nearly 2.5 per cent of the earth's territory and less than one per cent of its population still remained under colonial rule. More than two billion people had cast off the colonial yoke and nearly 100 new states arose on the fragments of colonial empires.

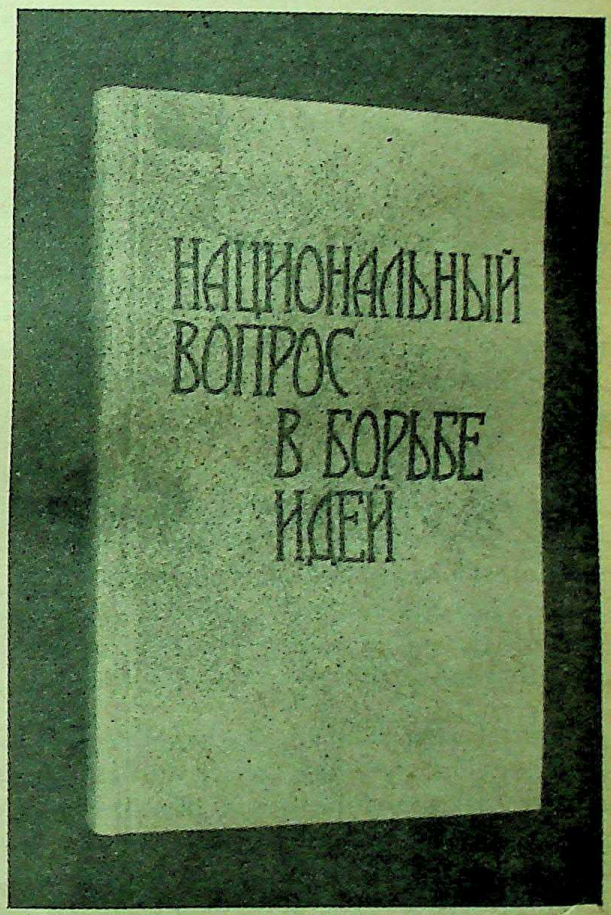
These newly formed states have been presented with a choice of the path of development. One path of social development leads directly or through a transitional stage to socialism; another to capitalism and only then to socialism. Attempts to find an intermediate path have so far proved unsuccessful.

The authors prove that the growth in the number of socialist states and countries of socialist orientation is not at all a result of the "export of revolution" by the USSR, its "interference in the affairs of other states", or its "terroristic activities", as is slanderously alleged by imperialist propaganda. Rather, it is primarily a consequence of the development of the revolutionary process in the liberated countries themselves. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries possess a community of interests with the liberated countries. This community determines the character of their relations, as relations of a new type. They combine the principles of independence and equality of rights, of non-interference in internal affairs, mutual respect and mutually beneficial cooperation with anti-imperialist and anti-neocolonialist solidarity, and the support by the Soviet Union of the independent, progressive development of liberated countries. The formerly enslaved countries have never known such kind of relations.

E.A. Bagramov

The Nationalities Question in the Struggle of Ideas

Politizdat, 1982



Is the problem of nations really unresolvable as reactionary scholars maintain? Is antagonism between nations and races a permanent or transient phenomenon? Is there a country in the world where there is no longer a social basis for international enmity and mistrust?

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Soviet scholar E.A. Bagramov, who is President of the Academic Council on Nationalities Question of the USSR Academy of Sciences, gives answer to these and other questions in his comprehensive work. Continuing research into problems dealt with in his earlier works (*The Nationalities Question and Bourgeois Ideology*, 1966, *The Leninist Nationalities Policy: Achievements and Perspectives*, 1977), the author draws in his new work a wide panorama of the ideological struggle around the nationalities question and reveals the contrast between the internationalist and nationalist view.

Bagramov sharply criticizes the false notions about nations and national character, at the basis of which lie the theory of national exclusiveness and the thesis of inevitable antagonism between different races and nations.

The author examines the dialectics of that which is national and international in the peoples' social life, their economic structure, culture and spiritual make-up, the unity and diversity of the historical process, and the correlation between the national and the class features, and between the national and the nationalistic.

The book contains a criticism of Euro- and Asia-centrism and of the contemporary varieties of globalism and racism. In addition, the reader will be interested by the material on racist and nationalistic collisions in the United States, Canada, Northern Ireland, the Republic of South Africa, Belgium and Spain.

The author rightly states that it is impossible to put an end to national oppression and internecine warfare, to the ideology of national exclusiveness without assimilating the international norms of relations between peoples formulated by world socialism—that of fraternal trust and friendship, of comradely cooperation and mutual assistance.

The October Revolution in Russia, having rid the country of class oppression, created the basis for the subsequent solution of the nationalities question. The elimination of all types of national oppression lead to the awakening of earlier oppressed nationalities and ethnic groups. Their development, which had been restrained or deformed by national oppression, henceforth proceeds in the most favourable conditions. All peoples, large and small, acquired the rights and freedoms of which they were deprived. All nationalities and ethnic groups in the USSR enjoy equal rights; the Soviet Constitution recognizes no national privileges whatsoever. The propagation of national discord is punishable by law.

The book points out that the socialist way of life does not at all make uniform all the aspects and spheres of the vital activities of the peoples, and that the policy of levelling out the levels of economic development does not mean that each republic is characterized by the same indices. Side by side with the common principle features of the Soviet way of life, each nationality preserves its distinctive features in various spheres, its language and traditions. The Soviet system gives regard to genuine national values, shows respect for the national feelings of the peoples and protects the freedom of conscience. It does not tolerate the setting off of people on the basis of nationality and religion. In turn, under socialism the national features must not be opposed to the international order of life in the USSR.

Bagramov imparts special value to this work by his use of a wealth of sources. He quotes from the works of scholars representing most varied philosophical trends and political views—both those who agree with his point of view and those who are diametrically at odds with it. The necessary due must be given to the polemical skills of Bagramov, who takes on his opponents armed with facts. The book contains a number of statements by prominent public figures of India, who are distinguished by their objective view on the solving of the nationalities question. For example, Shivdan Singh Chauhan, writer and public figure, compares the position of nationalities and ethnic groups in the USA and USSR: "... the Soviet model, based on the principles of socialist humanism and democracy which were formulated and generalized by the genius of great Lenin and realized with all the scrupulousness by the Communist Party of the Soviet Union has practically solved this problem once and for all in the course of an amazingly short period—a quarter of a century. A new community of free nations arose, whose members enjoy equal rights and privileges in all areas and which united themselves on federal principles into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, having thereby achieved the indissoluble fraternal unity of more than 120 nationalities and ethnic groups."

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INDIAN PUBLISHING
Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

*O.P. Ghai**

A Brief Historical Background

Publishing arrived in India towards the close of the sixteenth century when Jesuit missionaries brought the printing press into the country. It was an adjunct to evangelism but soon the dynamic of communication took over, and the activity, in the 19th century began to encompass larger and secular areas. It received a two-fold impetus: (i) with the educational system becoming organized after the acceptance of Macaulay's report on education, books were needed for the new educational system and (ii) as the Indian renaissance gained roots, especially in Bengal, publishing began to assume its rightful role in the country's intellectual life. While educational publishing remained in the hands of British-owned subsidiaries of such companies like Macmillan, Longman and Oxford University Press, cultural publishing remained with men who were related to the national awakening.

Indian Publishing since Independence

Book publishing as organized activity, is roughly coincidental with the Independence. There was of course the generativeness of the free state, the prolific political debate, the spillover from the media, and the emergence of an indigenous capitalism in publishing. Books were churned out in English, which stayed on as the unacknowledged lingua franca; and in the Indian languages as their literacy bases expanded. Soon Indian publishing began serving the needs of Indians settled abroad in large numbers, and even supplying text books to the countries of Asia and Africa, and academic books to libraries and research institutes all over the world.

Books Produced in India, Subjectwise: 1980

Category	*Number of titles*
Literature	4,278
Sociology, politics, economics, statistics	2,269
Law, education, insurance, social welfare, trade transport, communication	1,328
Philosophy, psychology, religion, theology	1,200
Engineering, technology, industries	1,182
Natural sciences, mathematics, medicine	940
History, geography, biography	854
Music, performing arts, cinema, games and sports	267
Language, linguistics, philology, ethnography, cultural anthropology	245
Agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, fisheries	183
Management, administration	107
Others	235
Total	13,088

(*Source:* National Library, Calcutta, 1980).

India ranks seventh in the world, by the number of titles published annually, according to UNESCO statistics. And even more significant

*Chairman, Sterling Publishers(P) Ltd, and Editor-in-Chief, *Indian Book Industry*, New Delhi 110 016.

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is the fact that we occupy the third position in terms of the number of English titles published, after the USA and the UK. This fact alone gives Indian publishing an enormous opportunity to contribute actively to the trans-national movement of ideas and information in the decades to come.

India's linguistic plurality has resulted in translation growing into a considerable discipline, with its own technology and expertise. As long as English remains a language of science, higher pedagogy, commerce and industry, and as these activities unite the diverse regions of the country, Indian books translated into English ensure the quickest and most efficient trans-lingual dispersal.

Books Produced in India, Language-wise: 1979-80

Language	*Number of titles*
Assamese	142
Bengali	1,025
English	7,512
Gujarati	495
Hindi	2,191
Kannada	919
Malayalam	815
Marathi	1,058
Oriya	402
Punjabi	277
Sanskrit	70
Tamil	900
Telugu	388
Urdu	198
Other languages	74
Total	16,466

More important is the fact that English translations will provide a vital tie-up the Indian languages need with the world metropolis.

India has a comparative advantage over many other countries, both economically in terms of book production costs, and linguistically in terms of the widespread capacity to use English in the preparation, publication and dissemination of knowledge. Too often in the past the flow of ideas and information has been predominantly from other parts of the world, particularly Europe and North America to India and not from India to the rest of the world. Indian authors and publishers will have to take up the challenge of making it a two-way traffic.

Let us bear in mind that India's creativity is not confined to the past nor is it restricted to the philosophical, religious, literacy or artistic persuasions. India is contributing vitally to the more temporal persuasions, the developmental, sociological and scientific debates which move contemporary societies.

Therefore, it is imperative that more books, better books and low-priced books be published in abundance, as a national objective.

The Public and the Private Sectors

Ours is a mixed economy, which is as much reflected in book publishing as in other sectors. The publications brought out by the state sector include not only parliamentary reports, policy documents of the Government of India, etc., but also school text-books, children's literature, biographies and works of cultural and aesthetic significance. Often these are subsidized by the state. Publication of school texts by government agencies is now an accepted fact in the country. In some cases even the distribution is undertaken by the state. This denies the private publishers the most lucrative branch of publishing.

The state's entry into publishing of textbooks has not produced ideal results. Mr. Narendra Kumar, President, Federation of Indian Publishers rightly says:

> The textbooks being used today, produced under a State monopoly, show a total disregard for quality, either, in content or presentation, a similar disregard for revision and updating, a lack of care in the commissioning and screening of authors; and no concern for regional and ethnic variations in requirements. Indeed, these shoddy texts, far from being a help, are a deterrent to learning, and since sales are guaranteed and there is no competition, the dismal situation continues. In fields where private publishers have been allowed to operate in publishing college-level texts, for instance, they have shown that they are capable of responsible and serious publishing. There is no reason to believe that this cannot be so in the case of school textbooks also. It should be possible for the government to monitor private textbook publishing with a view to quality, and for the NCERT to set guidelines for publishers to follow.
>
> Healthy competition improves the quality of products. Nationalization, on the other hand, tends to replace a large number of texts by a single one; a diversity of views, approaches and solutions by set formulae; and variety in presentation by a repetition that numbs the senses. At the simplest level, this means that where there should be a range and wealth of authors, there are only a handful; where there should be a multiplicity of choice, there is only the lowest common denominator; and where there should be a steady and strong infusion of ideas, there is often only a tired retelling of facts. Where is the room for experimentation in such a system? And where is the impetus?

We feel that the Government should involve private publishers in the production of school textbooks. It will ensure better cash flow and the publishers will be able to bring out other varieties of much needed literature.

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There are some private publishers already engaged in producing school textbooks. They publish mostly for elitist private schools in metropolitan centres. Besides textbooks, they successfully market supplementary reading material which the state does not provide.

Scholarly publishing, however, is by and large in the hands of private publishers. Such work is normally done by university presses in other countries. Not only are the sales of these academic titles very slow but the payments are blocked generally for a long time.

Various literary academies supported by the state governments publish outstanding works of literature. This genre of publishing, however, seldom involves a realistic awareness of economic factors.

Prominent Publishing Houses in India

There are over 12,000 publishing houses in the country, big and small including author-publishers. Of these a few hundred can be described as really active with publications in English or in the vernacular. Publishing in English is concentrated in Delhi, though there are a few publishers in Bombay, Culcutta and Madras. Language publishers function from their own states. The larger of the publishing houses concentrating on titles in English are :

Vikas Publishing House (P) Ltd.
Sterling Publishers (P) Ltd.
Hind Pocket Books (P) Ltd.
Abhinav Publications
Popular Prakashan (P) Ltd.
Allied Publishers (P) Ltd.
Rajpal & Sons (Hindi)
Rajkamal Prakashan (P) Ltd. (Hindi)
Radhakrishna Prakashan (Hindi)
Oxford University Press
Macmillan India Ltd.
Prentice-Hall of India (P) Ltd.
Wiley Eastern Ltd.
Tata McGraw-Hill Publishing Co. Ltd.
Jaico Publishing House
India Book House
Orient Longman Ltd.
S. Chand & Co. Ltd.

Almost all of these and many others which are not listed here have been contributing to the development of the Indian Publishing Industry. Vikas for example is blazing a trail with its imaginative policy and has expanded into areas of export in a big way. S. Chand is the biggest textbook publishers in the country and Sterling is well known for its scholarly titles the world over. Hind Pocket Books pioneered paperback publishing in India. Publishing companies which have British or American parent concerns and have been mainly issuing reprints of western textbooks have now started building original lists consisting purely of Indian writers.

In spite of this growth and expansion Indian book publishing is in a rather troubled state as the publishers are faced with high prices of paper, lack of finance, absence of a strong library movement, an unimaginative book import policy and high postal rates for the carriage of books to transport them to the individual book buyers in the vast rural areas—among many other problems that tend to retard the progress of this vital industry.

Cooperation with Socialist Countries

Ever since the beginning of the Moscow International Book Fair, there has been a notable increase in participation by Indian Publishers. This cultural link has resulted in a number of Russian books being translated into English and quite a few Indian languages. A few Indian books have also been translated into Russian languages. However, there is a much larger potential in this area of exchange, yet to be realized. I am sure that in the years to come the cooperation between publishers in India and the socialist countries will further increase. This bond will certainly have much to contribute to international understanding and world peace.

Book Exports

Books published in India are being exported to almost all countries. But India's share of the world market is negligible, despite the fact that in terms of English language publishing India ranks the third in the world. Of the total exports, the volume is largely made up of exports to the English-speaking countries.

Traditionally over 50 per cent of India's book exports went to the USA and Britain (consisting largely of Indology and Orientalia), and most of the rest went to countries with large Indian immigrant populations. This pattern is now undergoing a rapid change. The US and the UK together account for only 35 per cent of our exports, while new markets in Singapore, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, the Middle East and Africa are fast assuming major importance. Altogether, Indian books are now being exported to over 80 countries.

Explaining this phenomenon, Asang Machwe, Director of Wiley Eastern says, "College level Indian textbooks have a great cost advantage over their foreign competitors; they are priced at only a quarter of their American or British counterparts; and their intellectual level and the background that is assumed are much more appropriate to conditions in Third World countries."

This fact is corroborated by Narendra Kumar, Managing Director of Vikas Publishing House. He says, "All English-speaking countries that were once part of the British Empire have so far been monopolised by the British publishers. 16 out of 36 African countries do not have a printing press, and are totally dependent on imports. Now that

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educational publishing in India has come of age, Indian textbooks are in a strong position to take over from British ones, both because they are cheaper and more suited to local conditions."

The Government of India provides some support for the export of books. The publication Panel of the Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL) coordinates promotion and resolves problems faced by book exporters. In addition, the National Book Trust participates in Book Exhibitions and Fairs abroad and the Government gives travel subsidy for export promotion. But all this is nothing as compared to the massive support given by American, British and Soviet Governments to the publishers of their countries. We need some machinery like the British Council which is regularly and scientifically promoting British Books all over the world.

Book Exports from India, Countrywise: 1979-80

Countries		*Value Rs.*
UK		61,75,000
USA		48,50,000
Australia, Canada, New Zealand		26,61,000
Middle-East		
U A E	16,52,000	
Saudi Arabia	14,27,000	
Yemen	14,63,000	
Others	32,86,000	78,28,000
Asia		
Bangladesh	64,75,000	
Singapore	26,16,000	
Malaysia	21,23,000	
Nepal	21,97,000	
Sri Lanka	15,07,000	
Others	30,22,000	1,79,40,000
Europe		
Germany	13,88,000	
Netherlands	7,43,000	
Others	7,59,000	28,90,000
Kenya	11,38,000	
Tanzania	4,74,000	
Others	8,96,000	25,08,000
Other countries		5,22,000
	Total	4,53,74,000

(Source: *Business India*, March 1982).

The Indian Publishers have the capability and the technical know-how to make a dent in book exports. They have already increased their export from Rs. 6 crores in 1979-80 to Rs. 8 crores in 1980-81.

Given suitable encouragement with incentives, simple procedures, visits of prominent publishers and cooperation from our missions abroad, Indian books could gain an important position the world over especially in the Asian and African countries.

The Federation of Indian Publishers

I will conclude the article with a note on the Federation of Indian Publishers which is the representative body of Publishers in English, Hindi and other languages with its membership from all over India. All the leading publishers of the country are its direct members; other publishers being represented through various local associations and the Federation's regional offices at Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Bangalore.

The Federation is a registered society. Its present membership is over 400 including several regional associations like Tamilnadu Publishers Association, Kerala Publishers Association and Karnataka Publishers Association.

The main objective of the Federation is to promote professional standards among members and provide a forum for publishers to discuss their problems at the national and international levels.

The Federation is affiliated to International Publishers Association. It also functions as the Regional Office of the International Publishers Association for South Asia.

The Federation has been organising training courses and seminars from time to time on different aspects of publishing and allied issues. In some of its training courses, countries like Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka also have participated. In February '79, it organised a workshop on Book Publishing. An International Seminar on Distribution and Marketing of Books was held in 1980, and a Training course in copyright in March 1981.

The Federation has instituted annual awards for Excellence in Book Production.

Lately the Federation has become very active in the International field. Three independent delegations, without any Government assistance, went to USSR, China and UK. With their Soviet counterparts they have formed a Working Group, the meetings of which will alternately be held in USSR and India. The aim of the Working Group is to enlarge the areas of cooperation by holding joint Seminars, organising book exhibitions, exchanging publishing experts and also by exchanging bibliographic information on books published in India and USSR.

The Federation is now housed in its own building, the Federation House at 18 1/C Institutional Area (Near JNU) New Delhi-110067.

Indian publishing forges ahead!

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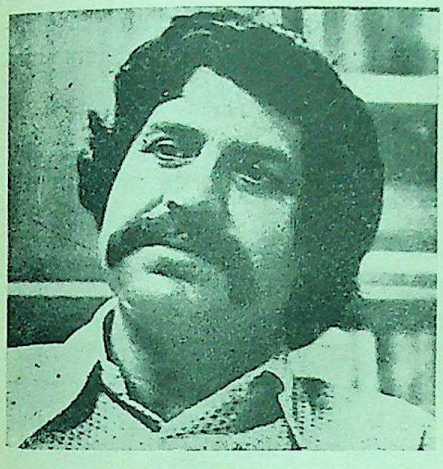
INDIAN PUBLISHING TODAY

*Narendra Kumar**



Written word, in simple terms, is a rational effort to transmit scholarship, values and ideas.

A respect for scholarship was the distinguishing feature of medieval India, living testimony to which may be found at the original libraries of *Rampur*, *Patna* and *Tanjore*. Several museums in India and abroad with their rich collections of illustrated manuscripts are similarly blessed, while a glimpse of this treasure may be had in the Islamic manuscripts of India now on display at the National Museum at New Delhi. The medieval tradition was confined to manuscripts only because modern printing and publishing were the contribution of the European adventure in India. It was the missionaries who introduced this country to the printed word by bringing out a Tamil book with a Portuguese title, *Doctrine Christian en Lingua Malaumar Tamil* in 1578 at Quilon in Kerala. The book became the backdoor entry into India of religious expansion, and subsequently a symbol of imperial expansion in the subcontinent.

Quite naturally then, subsidiaries of British publishing houses in India were the leading lights of book publishing in the early years of the twentieth century. While Macmillan was the first major publisher to set up shop in 1903, it was followed by Longman Green & Co. in 1906 and Oxford University Press in 1912. The only Indian publisher of note in pre-Independent India who comes to mind is G. A. Natesan of Madras; he specialized in the publication of political tracts mainly because of his personal involvement in the national movement and his political connections with the Congress Party. Publishing in India can be said to have become truly national only after independence, and is thus in the mainstream of the politico-economic and social processes of national development. Its growing importance underlines the growing status of this country in the family of nations. It would be short-sighted therefore to view publishing as a commercial enterprise: it is a profession with a large component of social relevance to its credit.

Winds of social and economic changes during the last three decades have enormously increased the need for books in national and local languages. In schools where enrolment is as high as 100 million, new curriculum materials are being developed and more and more supplementary materials are required that would be relevant to the young readers' experience and to the new developmental needs of the country. In addition, children's books which arouse interest and provide enjoyment in the way that textbooks cannot, are another important requirement. So are books for continuing education; books to teach and maintain literacy; books to train and support farmers, industrial workers and para-professionals; books to strengthen cultural awareness and provide pleasure and information for the public in general and books for university education (enrolment about 5 million), many of which are now needed in Indian languages. All this forms a formidable list and it is a privilege for any government or industry to undertake the task of meeting these requirements urgently, because to do so is to participate in the revolutionary changes which are essential for a better life for the teeming millions of India.

According to the world's annual book production index, India is among the ten largest book producing countries in the world, and

*Managing Director, Vikas Publishing House Pvt. Ltd.

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ranks third, after the United States of America and the United Kingom, in the production of English titles. India has held this position for a pretty long period with an average annual output of over 12,000 titles. The number of titles produced in India in 1978, 1979 and 1980 was 12,932, 11,087 and 13,157 respectively.

India has been producing books on all varieties of subjects in Social Science, Humanities, Science and Technology. Over one-third of our total production consists of literature, followed by politics and economics (about 14 per cent), while natural sciences and medical sciences account for less than 5 per cent and more than one per cent respectively. As for the languages in which books are produced, English continues to occupy the highest position (about 43 per cent), followed by Hindi (10½ per cent), Marathi (9.8 per cent), Bengali (6.7 per cent) and Malayalam (5.8 per cent). A directory of the Indian book industry tells us that there are over 11,000 book publishers in the country.

In keeping with the spirit of free flow of information and knowledge, India has always had a liberal book import policy. There has never been any censorship or custom duty on the import of books. With effect from 1977-78 the import of educational, scientific and technical books was brought on the Open General Licence, while other categories of publications such as fiction and children's books were subjected to licensing, which again was not too rigid.

In the matter of exports, Indian books reach out to over 80 countries, and the value of export of publications has increased from Rs. 10.2 million in 1970-71 to Rs. 80.0 million in 1980-81. Our exports have been increasing constantly and the target for 1981-82 i.e. Rs. 100.0 million was also achieved. The largest buyers of our books are the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Singapore, Malaysia and neighbouring Bangladesh and Nepal.

There are about 220 exporters of books and magazines registered with the Book Panel of the Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council which, in co-operation with the Government, monitors the need of exporters, resolves their problems and formulates book export programmes.

This brief look at the statistical profile of the Indian book industry reveals a mixed position. The picture is heterogeneous and complex, happy and gloomy, full of contrasts and contradictions at the same time. Many of these complexities can be better understood if we remember that Indian publishing was the by-product of a national upsurge in various walks of life. Breaking away from the cultural imperialism of the past was by no account an insignificant achievement. Having more or less accomplished this uphill task, the Indian publishing industry is now on a fairly strong footing. Indian Publishing has come of age. The World Book Fairs organised in India and the Fifth World Book Fair held in February '82 in New Delhi are indicative of the status attained by Indian publishing within the country and abroad.

A few enlightened and energetic publishers therefore urged the Government to set up the machinery for a coherent and systematic approach to book development in the country. A separate Book Promotion and Copyright Division was thus created in the Ministry of Education in 1966 to promote different kinds of indigenous books and also arrange foreign collaboration for providing inexpensive reprints or translations of university level books. The National Book Trust, set up a decade earlier as an autonomous organisation to publish popular inexpensive reading material and promote book-mindedness is also administered by this division. The division has since expanded considerably and now comprises, besides Copyright Office and International Copyright Cell, an Import Unit, an Export Promotion Unit, a reference library of university level books published in India and a couple of other sections. The Book Promotion Division works in close collaboration with the Indian book industry and is in constant touch with the professional associations of authors, publishers and booksellers.

The Indian book industry has great potential and can play an important role in our Programmes of adult literacy and formal and informal education. While in the West, the form and shape of books as known to us for centuries is under the direct threat of micro-processors and computers, the ordinary book will continue to occupy an honourable place in our scheme of things. □

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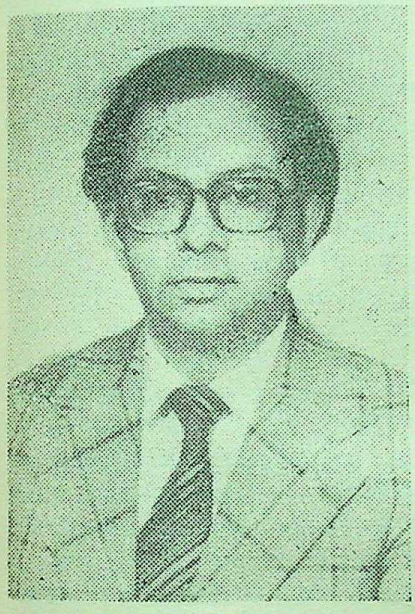
EXPORT OF INDIAN BOOKS

*Asoke Kumar Ghosh**



East is East and West is West,
And never the twain shall meet,
Till earth and heaven stand,
Before God's great judgement seat.

In the area of our books export trade, as with many other areas, these words of Rudyard Kipling have been increasingly falsified; the trade in books between the East and the West has expanded, and from a mere 10 million rupees a few years back, the total Indian book exports have now reached a figure of 150 million rupees.

The Indian Publishing Industry has made tremendous progress in general since Independence, and in the last ten years in particular. Today, we are the third largest English language book producing country in the world after the U.S.A and U.K. With an average annual production of about 19,000 titles, India ranks seventh in the world in book production after U.S.A. U.S.S.R., West Germany, Japan, U.K., France and Spain and the largest in the Third World.

There are over 12,000 publishers in India, and out of 19,000 titles, nearly half of them are in the English language. Indian books have emerged as an export earner of some potential and promise in spite of stiff international competition, stringent export norms, lack of funds, bureaucratic hardships, etc., but viewed from the global point of view our share of Rs. 150 million is insignificant. It is all the more distressing when there is a vast untapped export market for Indian books. We are exporting mainly to U.S.A , U.K. Bangladesh, Singapore, Middle East and African countries. While books on Indian Art, History, Philosophy and Religion are in great demand in Europe and U.S.A.. the third world is looking for college and school level books on science and technology.

Besides surpassing the other third world countries in terms of editorial and production standards, the Indian books are beginning to be accepted even in developed countries. While the low cost of books is a predominant factor for export to developing countries, the merit of the contents and excellence in production are of utmost importance in the matter of export to the advanced countries. It is a good sign that the Western countries have now started showing interest in a variety of Indian books including textbooks, thus exploding the myth that books other than on Indology, and Indian philosophy cannot be significantly exported to them. This is mainly because our standards have improved and the services of many Indian teachers are utilised in their prestigious institutions.

The Soviet Union is one of the big potential buyers of Indian goods, but on the book front due to our lack of promotional activity and consequently the lack of information on Indian books at the Soviet Union, and also to some extent due to constraint of language, this market is not yet tapped appreciably. A delegation of Indian publishers went to U.S.S.R. in 1981 and held useful discussions with their counterparts who followed up our visit by sending a delegation to New Delhi in 1982 during the World Book Fair. A working group had been formed to mutually collaborate book trade relations between the two countries. The first meeting

*Chairman and Managing Director of Prentice-Hall of India Private Limited.

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of the working group took place in 1982 in New Delhi during the time of World Book Fair. The second meeting of the working group will be held at Moscow during the International Book Fair in September 1983. India is actively participating in that fair. The meeting of the working group and the exhibition of Indian books in U.S.S.R. are expected to improve our book export. This is especially so in view of the book minded reading public of the Soviet Union where one can often see people queuing up to buy books—a sight we would very much aspire to have in India. The U.S.S.R. has also earmarked a substantial amount to buy Indian books, and we should strive to make them available to them. Similarly the other socialist countries like Poland and Rumania have also set apart funds for Indian books.

The Government of India strives to boost book export by various measures like export incentives, export development rebate, duty drawback, replenishment license etc. Chemical & Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL), which looks after the promotion of books export through a separate pannel on books and publications, has taken up a massive export development programme. It has an ambitious plan to reach a target of 1 billion rupees by the end of the decade. A special unit has also been set up in the Ministry of Education to spearhead the efforts for the promotion of book exports. India is regularly participating in all major international book fairs subsidized through CAPEXIL, which also subsidizes individual as well as joint sales study tours to explore export markets abroad. It has also recently sponsored two delegations—one visited U.S.A., U.K., Canada and Mexico and the other toured Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. They found in those countries a keen interest in the Indian books which appeared to them to be good both in editorial content and production quality. But the distressing aspect is that there have been hardly any promotion of the Indian books and the titles that the customers require or show interest in are rarely available. The books that are imported by them are frequently damaged due to bad packaging, and the time taken to procure the books from India is too long.

To take advantage of the full potential in book export, serious thought should be given to the following proposals if India is to have a rightful share in the international book export market.

1. Cultural centres should be established in other countries, not only in their respective capitals, but also at other important cities; and these centres must monitor the educational, literary and library requirements of the country, and help in promotional activity in close collaboration with the Indian book trade. Even the advanced countries like U.S.A., U.K. and U.S.S.R. are having such centres all over the world.

2. There is a long felt necessity to organise proper and up-to-date cataloguing of Indian books. There is an area where we have miserably failed and much is desired. A catalogue briefing about the author and the subject, and giving the contents is infinitely more helpful than a mere check list.

3. The publishers, in addition to producing books for the domestic market and then trying to export some of them will also do well to produce selected titles mainly for the export market based on the other countries' requirements. Here, particular attention has to be paid to the quality of production, especially when trying to promote our titles in the western countries. Whereas the low cost of Indian books is undoubtedly an advantage in the third world countries, the developed countries, used to superior quality of production, look forward to very high standards in paper, printing, binding and design.

4. In the sphere of export of children's books we are dormant—the *latent* resources existing in children's literature in the form of Indian mythology, legends and folklore have a ready-made market abroad. It is a mistaken notion to assume a dearth of market abroad for children's books; one rarely sees promotion of our children's literature outside India, or display of such books at international book fairs. By a right kind of publicity and by even substituting names and with a little editing to suit the local culture and ethos we can effectively develop a good export market in this field.

5. Finally, I feel it is very important that the Indian books so promoted must be made *available*. Availability is an important motivating factor in the developed countries where purchasing power is high. Therefore, stocking arrangements for Indian books in the principal cities abroad are imperative. Organizations like National Book Trust and CAPEXIL can play a major and useful role by organising distribution and sales centres at important places; it is difficult and beyond the reach of bigger publishers to set up such sales points.

From the time when the Jesuit missionaries introduced the *printed word* in the Indian publishing scene, more than 400 years ago, the Indian publishing activity crawled at a snail's pace till about a couple of decades ago; thenceforth its progress has been by quick jumps, and now it is entering in a very big way the global market. □

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Publishing in the Public Sector

Amrik Singh, IAS

1 Role of Books

Books occupy a prominent place in advancing the quality of life in all societies in all the developing countries. The concept of quality of life varies from individual to individual, culture to culture and country to country. In brief, the quality of life is a dimension of living beyond the physical and material but surely not excluding the essentials of life. The quality of life is comprised of value rather than wealth, of happiness and harmony instead of quantitative attainments of money incomes and Gross National Products.

The chief concern of society dedicated to the quality of life is to rear selfless, balanced and gracious individuals constantly involved in the pursuit of higher goals of life. In the realm of national planning, the concept of quality of life is closely linked to development. The larger concept of development goes beyond the quantitative measures and limited goals to certain higher values such as justice, harmony and freedom in society, and creativity in the individual. The new concept of quality of life in development is relevant to the materially poor societies, the so called developing countries of the Third World.

The happiness of the individual or the measure of his life's quality depends upon individual's relations with himself, his relations with his fellow beings or his society and his relations with God or that Supreme power which takes him to higher realms of awareness. The strength of the society depends upon the competence and maturity of its individual members. The sole end of the society is to raise and restructure free, disciplined and aspiring persons for the well being and happiness of all. Towards this end, the cultural modes and instruments play an important role and among these modes, the habit of reading the books is most relevant. Books perform an essential role in promoting the quality of life and this role assumes much higher dimensions, when a traditional culture is in the process of transition from the dead traditions to literacy.

Books play a three-fold role :

1. give useful information and impart knowledge;
2. provide a source of entertainment and afford a good pastime;
3. inspire the individuals to creative thinking.

As an instrument of education and culture, books continue to occupy a pivotal place in their effectiveness. The audiovisual media, the radio, the films and television have advanced potentially but they do not and cannot replace the book. On the other hand, they promote literacy. The cultural life of the individual is moulded by the quality of his environment. The audiovisual media only supplement the role played by books in training the human mind towards better living and higher goals. The books afford an effective means of communication of minds beyond time and space, and no scientific invention could ever match this precious role of books in the life of the individual. Article 1 of the Charter of Book rightly proclaims: "Everyone has the right to read". Unfortunately, the picture of literacy in our country is bleak and there are a few silver linings in the horizon. While the percentage of literacy is going up slowly, but steadily, the number of illiterates also continues to increase side by side. So we shall continue to have lowest literacy rate in the world by the end of the century.

2 Book Development

In the above context, the State has a special responsibility for book development and promoting book mindedness among the largest number of people.

To promote the habit of reading and book mindedness among the common folk, it is essential for the State to devise its future education policy in a manner whereby the quality of books produced is substantially improved with a view to

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promoting the cultural life of the nation. Moreover, the books should be reasonably priced so as to be easily accessible to the common man. We must evolve the right policy and ensure proper implementation of the programme of book development for improving the quality of life.

Apart from making available good books at cheap rates to the adults, there is imperative need for providing useful and interesting books to the children in the school age group because it is at the foundation stage that a child is able to mould his habits and character for the future. If we want millions to become the ideal citizens of the nation, we have to start at the grass root level and feed the educational needs of the children in a befitting manner. These books should not only provide moral and bookish knowledge, but also impart basic knowledge on subjects such as human physiology, psychology, science, general knowledge especially relating to India and of the environments around. It is high time that the State takes stock of the situation and frames its policies and programmes to cater to the educational needs of the community in the best possible manner within, of course, the available resources. Besides liberal education, there is need to impart moral and spiritual education so as to build up the character of the students who constitute the backbone of the developing nation. In the present situation, the need to boost the morale of the children particularly the youth is still more pressing than ever before.

3 Government Publications

Government publications constitute a major portion of the books published in the public sector. These publications are comprised of Administrative Reports, Statistical Reports, Commission and Committee Reports, Research Reports, Bills, Acts, Laws, Codes, Law Reports, Digest Rules and Regulations, record of proceedings of Parliament beside literature, informative publications, periodicals, maps, and charts etc.

The scope of government publications is fairly large in a developing economy. It is a well known fact that printed publications on a variety of subjects contain the most reliable, authentic available information on the policies and programmes of the government and the best media to keep the public mind informed of its activities. Another important feature peculiar to government publications is that these are very inexpensive, rich in contents and easily accessible to the common man. These publications provide useful material to all sections of the society including the farmers, educationists, capitalists, industrialists, legal practitioners and so on. Besides the basic need of food, shelter and clothing, the people do require to be trained mentally and for that matter, the value of government publications in disseminating knowledge cannot be undermined. The object of the government is to make available its publications to educate the people in various walks of life and to focus the public mind to new ideas and techniques used by the government machinery for the progress of the nation and overall benefit of the people.

4 Publishing in the Public Sector

Book publishing presents an unfettered opportunity for free expression and for improving the quality of life. The role of the elite in developing countries is considered important because the leaders are responsible for moulding public opinion and determining policies. In a developing society the ability to disseminate knowledge which is the primary task of a publisher assumes special significance because this knowledge is the foundation on which the society is to be built. As such the publisher must set high standards of excellence in the quality of book production. Publishing in the private sector is not bound by procedural bottlenecks as in the public sector. On the other hand publishing in the public sector is on a much larger variety of subjects and colossal useful information/data is printed and made available for distribution and sale in the form of government publication at very moderate prices. The object in doing so is to disseminate information to the people about the policies and programmes of the government. So the book production in a public sector is not motivated by the profiteering factor. However, there is need for updating the data contained in various government reports and statistical handbooks and to reprint the revised editions in a more prompt manner, otherwise it leaves a cushion for the private sector to grow and make undue profit by bringing out private publications containing more up-to-date information.

5 Organisation

The Department of Publication of the Government of India which emerged as a fullfledged Department in 1973 and forms an integral part of the PSP Division of the Ministry of Works and Housing, was established in April, 1924. At the initial stage, it was known as the Publication Section in the Central Government Press located at Calcutta. After less than a decade in 1933 it assumed a separate entity as Publication Branch with a Manager at its apex, shifted to Civil Lines Old Secretariat, Delhi. The Publication Branch handled 85 per cent of government publications of 184 departments' ministries, attached and subordinate offices of the central government including semi-govern-

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ment institutions and autonomous bodies. The department handles 75,000 titles and ranks as the second largest publisher, stockist, distributor and seller of government publications after HMSO London. The latter produced only 90,000 titles in 186 years since its inception. At present the Department is headed by the Controller assisted by one Deputy Controller, five Assistant Controllers, one financial Officer and one Hindi Officer. It has the following organisational set-up.

1. Main office of the Controller of Publications, located at Civil Lines, Delhi;
2. Two sales depots: (i) Kitab Mahal, Baba Kharag Singh Marg, New Delhi; and
   (ii) Government of India Book Depot, 8-K.S. Roy Road, Calcutta; and
3. Five sale counters: (i) Head Office, Civil Lines, Delhi 110054; (ii) Udyog Bhawan, Gate No. 13, New Delhi (iii) High Court, New Delhi; (iv) Union Public Service Commission New Delhi; and (v) Central Board of Revenue Building, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi. The sale depot at Bombay is likely to be re-opened shortly.

6 Activity

In addition to the book depots/ sales counters, the publications are sold through a net-work of 896 agents (including 24 foreign agents 150 Sale & Return agents and 365 Employment Exchanges) supply of publications is also made directly from the Head Office to the central government departments, state government and semi-government institutions, universities, and libraries, etc., and to the public.

During the last three years, the department has brought about significant changes and streamlined its working so as to boost the sales and ensure quicker supply of publications to all concerned. The Agency system has been completely overhauled. Better incentives have been proposed for selling government publications in a big way. The revival of the closed sales depots/counters of the Department at Delhi High Court, UPSC and CBR Building, New Delhi is one of the major steps taken for pushing up the sales.

The Department has brought out latest catalogue of government publications with 2,000 important titles and 35 periodicals corrected upto April 1981. The lists of *new arrivals* are regularly released every month to the agents and to the members of the public through the press.

As a result of sustained hard work and dynamic leadership, the sales have reached the record figure of Rs, 155 lacs during the year 1981-82 (upto 31 December 1981). The value of advertisements secured during the year 1981-82 (9 months) is Rs. 35 lacs which is double the amount earned during the year 1979-80. The work regarding recovery of outstanding dues has broken all records of past performance. A sum of Rs. 25 lacs is expected to be recovered by the end of the year 1981-82, as against Rs. 12.21 lacs recovered during 1979-80.

The supply of newly released publications to U.S Library of Congress under the Exchange Agreement and the resumption of sale of publications of the Publications Division (Ministry of Information and Broadcasting) after a lapse of about 8 years are some of the laudable steps taken by the Department for achieving higher efficiency.

The Department is being reorganised on the lines recommended by the Department of Administrative Reforms to make it run on a sound financial footing. As a result of the reorganisation proposal, which is under active consideration of the Government, some new avenues of promotion would be provided to the employees. The object is to encourage all those who have done good work to push up the sales to the maximum. The marketing division is being set up under the reorganised system which is expected to further boost the sale and supply of government publications. A special cell functions under an Officer to expeditiously attend to the complaints of delay in supply and allied matters. Whereas a lot has already been accomplished, yet there is considerable scope for planning and promoting sales further as also for future expansion to achieve higher efficiency and optimum results. □

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The Face of Indian Publishing

K. S. Duggal

Book publishing in India came into its own with independance. New avenues were opened The modern Indian languages started acquiring more and more importance. Literary activity in the regional languages received a fillip Learning of English language acquired a new meaning. More schools and colleges came to be opened. The number of universities multiplied. There was a spate of newspapers and periodicals. Publishing developed by leaps and bounds. Before long, India found itself to be the seventh largest publisher of books in the world and only the third largest publisher of books in English after the USA and the UK.

And yet, all this is precious little considering the massive requirements of our teeming millions. Ours is one of the lowest rates of book production. As against 535 for Europe, (150 for world average) and 50 for Asia, India has a meagre 27 books per million of our population, while the world average is 150.

We have among ourselves publishers who can claim an initial print-run of 5 lakh copies of soft cover of a Hindi novel and about a lakh copies of a fairly expensive title like *Freedom At Midnight* in hardcover, the normal print-run of our publications in English and the Indian languages is 1100 copies which is utterly uneconomic. It is even less in some of the regional languages like Urdu and Punjabi, Oriya and Assamese.

As regards Indian authors, one can count on one's fingers (of one's hand) those who (can be said to) make their living off their writings. They have to work in government offices, teach in schools and colleges, do odd jobs to enable them to pursue their literary activity. I can do no better than quote a leading Indian publisher, "If commercial publishers are to acquire a good name, they must ensure that author's interests are well protected Unfortunately, in many cases, this aspect has not been fully appreciated. As a result authors and publishers often work at cross-purposes "

In the meanwhile the prices of inputs like paper and production costs have spiralled so high that buying a book has become beyond the means of a reader of average means Even paperbacks are becoming prohibitive day by dav. The imported paperbacks certainlv are

While independence opened floodgates of opportunities for Indian publishing, it slammed a vital door on publishing in the private sector. School textbooks came to be nationalised The decision had disastrous consequences on book publishing in the country Many an empire collapsed overnight It had an equally devastating effect on the student community. The public sector was found utterly unprepared for the onerous responsibility. Every now and then complaints were received about the non-availability of school textbooks or of malpractices in their distribution. One would hardly say that we have streamlined all the outfits even today despite highly professional organisations like National Council for Educational Research And Training (NCERT) having been involved in it. While one can understand Government's anxiety to arrange preparation of school textbooks under their auspices, it is not understood why the production and distribution of the titles could not be entrusted to the expertise of the private sector? It is learnt that NCERT has made a beginning in this direction. The decision has been taken not a day too soon. It is hoped that more and more manuscripts would be farmed out to the private sector at least as long as the public sector is not equipped to shoulder the responsibility competently

The position obtaining prior to the nationalisation of school textbooks was that the publishers made assured profit in text book publishing and did not mind undertaking publication of books of general interest. Deprived of this important source of income, publishers in the private sector became wary of involving themselves in undertaking general books. This cautious approch killed many a budding writer.

After the nationalisation of school textbooks, the Indian publisher was

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left with university level textbooks as an important sphere of activity. The Government however, started making inroads in this field too by entering into bilateral agreements with the countries that were major suppliers of higher level textbooks and also by setting up bureaux of textbooks in the universities. Then the Government took the momentous decision to switch to the Indian languages as media of instruction from the lowest to the highest level including the post-graduate research. The Ministry of Education and Social Welfare earmarked 18 crores of rupees for the purpose and set up a network of University Text Book Boards throughout the country. This was the proverbial last straw. It broke the camel's back.

In the meanwhile, with a view to producing low priced good reading material and encouraging creative writing, the Government set up the National Book Trust, India and the Sahitya Akademi at the Centre. Very soon the States also organised similar bodies at their level. They started snatching what little was left with the private sector. However, sooner than later a realisation dawned upon those in authority that the public and the private sectors in publishing must supplement each other. The public sector should undertake publishing of books which people *ought* to read and leave those which people *want* to read to the private sector. Accordingly only 20 per cent of publishing today is done in the public sector.

More importantly, it was realised that the public sector in publishing should engage itself more and more in promotional activities. For instance the National Book Trust, India should organise book exhibitions and book fairs on the regional, national and international basis. Rather than making book publishing its primary activity, the Trust should foster book mindedness. It should conduct periodical surveys in reading habits and share its findings with the others in the same field. It should organise Seminars and Symposia, workshops and training courses on writing and translation, production and distribution of books.

In pursuance of this, the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare entrusted the Trust with the operation of a scheme called Subsidised Publications of University Level books. It is an ambitious project under which the Trust has already distributed large funds to the tune of rupees one crore to the university level textbook publishers. The scheme is designed to help the student community by providing them with low-priced textbooks. The provision for the current year is rupees 25 lakhs approximately.

The present crisis in publishing has been precipitated by the Government withholding the normal grants for purchase of books by the libraries. It is noticed that whenever there is a constraint of funds, the axe invariably falls first on the cultural and educational institutions. The blow has been crippling this time. According to one estimate, "books worth over rupees 4 crores printed specifically for college and university libraries have not been lifted from book publishers and distributors."

Publishing industry even in the developed countries depends mainly on the library purchases. In the U.K. for every book purchased, 15 are borrowed from the libraries. The leading fiction writers in the U.K. don't have more than 2,000 copies for the first print-run of their novels. Of this 1,200 copies are purchased by the libraries, 500 copies are exported and 300 copies are left for counter sales. In India, we spend 5 paise per head on library services. In the USA they spend more than 12 rupees per head. In the U.K. it is about 6 rupees per head.

We must have a network of libraries if we don't want our literates to lapse into illiteracy. It is also not true that those who are affluent read more books. The State of Punjab with the highest per capita income is the least book-minded.

Having been hounded out from every quarter, the private sector has done a creditable job in paperbacks. It has gone a long way in meeting the needs of the book-lovers in these days of soaring prices reading-material. It has helped considerably in fostering book-mindedness. Recently some imaginative publishers, more especially in English, have successfully exploited the topicality of some of the events of the current history and have given birth to what comes to be known as "instant" books. They have indeed gone a long way in developing the reading habit and also creating an increasing market for Indian books. It was for the first time that we heard of "best sellers" one after another in the history of Indian publishing.

But viewing it from the larger interests of the society, sheer numbers do not contribute to the "quality of life" which is the crying need of the day. Said Pope Paul VI. "It is not a question of reproducing an abundance of books of just any sort. It is through its quality that the book can play its beneficial part."

The economic realities dictate that the private sector must cater to the readers' taste. The public sector must try and build it. It is therefore, imperative that the public and the private sector must learn to live together. In book publishing in India today, we must begin with the end. the We must foster the reading habit before launching publishing projects of smaller or larger magnitude.

Indian publishing has a respectable component in the public sector. Its private sector is very well organised. A little more empathy on the part of the Government and a little more perceptive approach from the private sector can lead Indian publishing to greater heights. □

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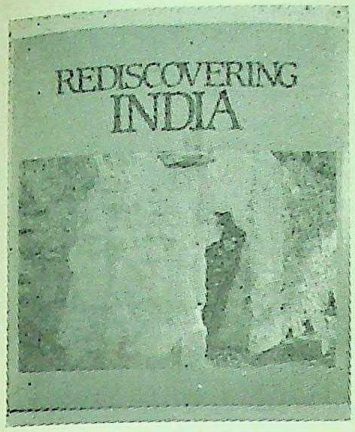

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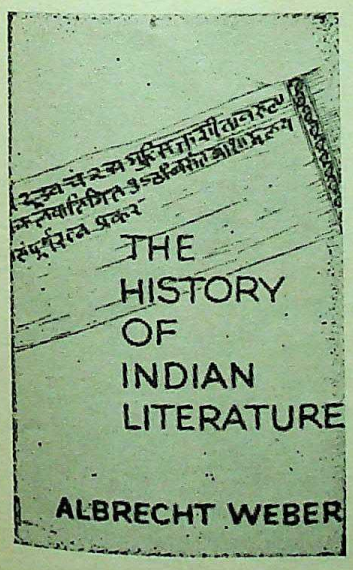

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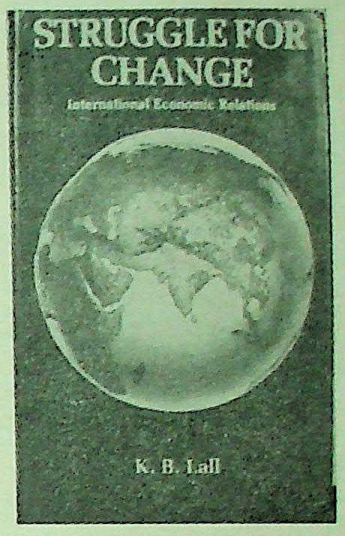

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THE STATE OF THE NATION: Presidential Addresses to Parliament from Dr Rajendra Prasad to Neelam Sanjiva Reddy

—Annotated by R.L. Handa

1983, 308 pp+6 plates, Rs. 125

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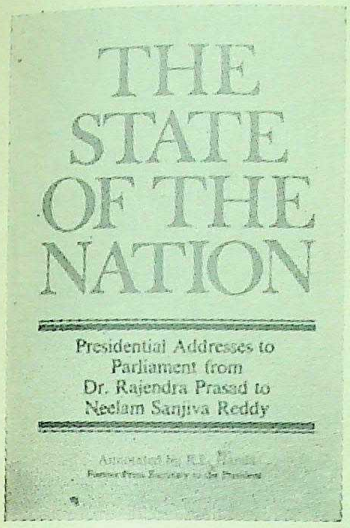


The volume is a collection of the Presidential speeches to the Parliament from 1950 to 1982. From Rajendra Prasad to Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the addresses are a record of the plans and programmes of the ruling party, as well as of various national and international events of the time. They bear testimony to the immense tasks confronting the government of a nation as diverse and large as India. The addresses also record India's progress as a very young democracy to a third world giant.

A concise biographical sketch of each President has been included, as well as an analytical analysis of each speech before the main text of the speech itself.

Shri R.L. Handa worked as Press Secretary to the first President of India Dr Rajendra Prasad from 1952 to 1962.

Press Comments

The book under review contains 35 Addresses—from the one delivered by Dr. Rajendra Prasad in 1950 to the one by Mr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy in 1982. R.L. Handa, who is well qualified for the task, has provided a concise summary of each address together with explanatory notes. This is very helpful in grasping the thrust of the address. A brief biographical note on each President is another welcome background information.

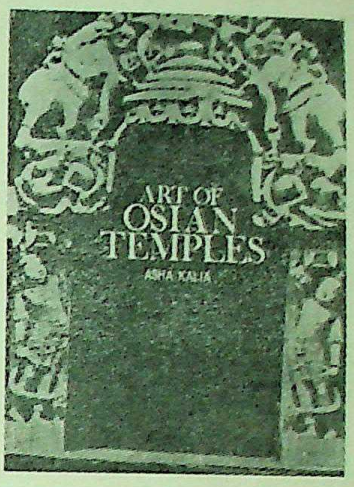
—The Tribune

ART OF OSIAN TEMPLES

Asha Kalia

1982, 196 pp, Rs. 250

Abhinav Publications



The book is a result of several years of intensive research which consisted of several visits to the pleasing hamlet of Osian, the libraries and museums of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and New Delhi. The Osian of today is a small town, but in its heyday, it was a bustling city and trade centre of Northern India. To demonstrate their love for God, for what He had given them, the people built shrines and temples. The temples of Osian are comparable in beauty to those of Khajuraho and Bhubaneswar.

The temples of Osian, though in a poor state now, have preserved their records well. The temples read like an illustrated book. In this book, an attempt has been made to show what India was like during the reign of Gujara-Prathiharas. The sculptures of Osian show us what people wore, how they amused themselves, how they worshipped, how they lived, what their social life was like and what they believed in.

The book consists of 16 chapters. Each chapter is self-contained and deals with a specific aspect of culture. The book provides details of the social life and the dress, weapons, countries and the educational systems. It also highlights the economic life, religious beliefs and method of worship. The major religions at that time were Hindusim and Jainism. The book will be immensely valuable for the scholars interested in the study of religion, art and culture of India, particularly of Rajasthan.

Asha Kalia is a member of the U.P. Historical Society, India and the Association of the Field Archaeology of the U.S.A.

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PARTITION AND INDEPENDENCE OF INDIA
(Inside Story of the Mountbatten Days)

—Manmath Nath Das

1982, 344 pp, Rs. 100

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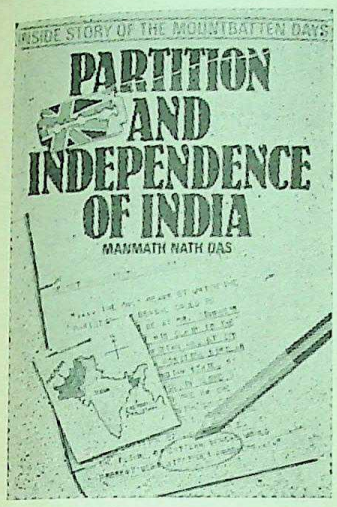

This sensational story of the men and events that shaped India's destiny in 1947 answers questions which have remained persistently controversial: Did the British desire a vivisection of India into many parts? Was it the Mountbatten Plan, or the Congress Plan, or as Mountbatten wanted to call it the Gandhi Plan, which divided India? How was Churchill—that staunch defender of the "deathless and ageless empire"—induced to acquiesce to the transfer of power? Did he aim at breaking that empire into Hindustan, Pakistan and Princestan in order to retain the last two as Britain's bastions? Did Mountbatten want a united sovereign Bengal to serve England's interests? Was he responsible for the debacle of Hyderabad and of Kashmir? Did the British make a gift of the Frontier Province to Jinnah? Or did the Congress lose it by default? How could India be lured into the Commonwealth in spite of the known principles of Congress to the contrary? The year 1947 will always retain its fascination and significance. The purpose of this book is to objectively present an authoritative historical version of that time. The inside story of India's independence and partition, in all its enormous complexities, is now revealed through recorded accounts of day-to-day developments.

At present Manmath Nath Das is Professor and Head of the Post-Graduate Department of History, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Orissa.

TECHNOLOGY IN ANCIENT INDIA

—O.P. Jaggi

1981, 262 pp, Rs. 200

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The search for the roots of Indian technology takes us back to millennia when man survived with the help of the stone tools that he made. The magnificent finds at Harappa, Mohenjodaro and other sites of the famed Indus Valley Civilisation no doubt proclaim the first flowering of art and science in India.

The well laid-out towns with wells, drains, water chutes, and an elaborate system of domestic and civic sanitation are modern even by today's standards. The seals and pottery, tools and figurines, weapons and toys give evidence of a highly advanced civilisation.

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Professor O.P. Jaggi's interest in the history of science, technology and medicine in India spans a period of over two decades. His extensive research in this duration have led him to plan and write a fifteen-volume history on the subject.

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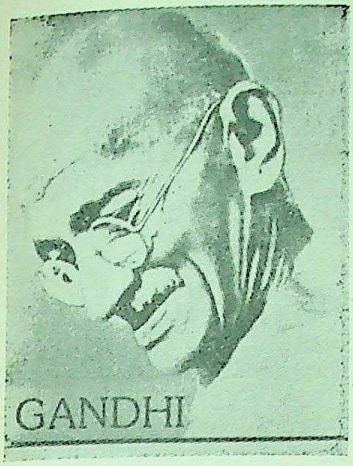
GANDHI—A Life Revised
1983, 131 pp, Rs. 38
Interprint



The text of the book has been provided by the publications Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India. The book is profusely illustrated with 123 photographs. Although most of them have been published before, all the same it is refreshing to see them in this book accompanied by a text which is simple and bold in style with easy flow. The book tells the story of Gandhi's life. At the end of the book is a chapter Milestones in Mahatma Gandhi's Life encompassing a span of 79 years from the 2nd of Oct. 1869 to 30 Jan. 1948, giving highlights of each decade.

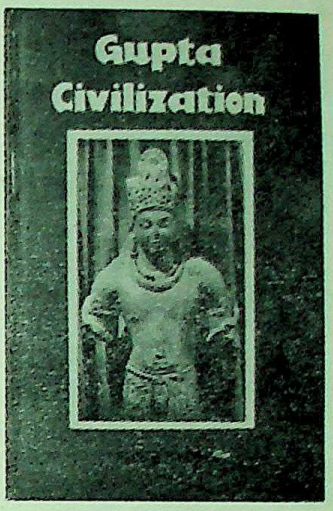
Summing up the book is a quote by Albert Einstein "Generations to come will scarce believe that such a one as this ever in flesh and blood walked upon this earth. . . ."

GANDHI: A Life
—Krishna Kripalani
1982, 216 pp, Rs. 20
National Book Trust, India

This book is an interesting account of seemingly simple, yet complex and baffling personality whom different people saw in different garb. It is primarily not a narration of the achievements of Gandhi which are a part of the history of India, but an earnest attempt by the author to present the story of Gandhi the man and how he came to be what he became, not so much the story of what he did as what he was—a unique phenomenon of human sensibility and attainment in the modern world.

Krishna Kripalani is at Present Chairman, National Book Trust, India.

GUPTA CIVILIZATION
—Sarla Khosla
1982, 318 pp Rs. 150
Intellectual Publishing House



This work is based on original sources such as inscriptions, coins, sculptures, architectural remains, Buddhist and Jain Works, precontemporary and post-Kalidasa Sanskrit works including the Puranas the contemporary foreign pilgrims Fa-hein, Yuan-Chwang and I-Tsingh. It contains the rarest sculptures (study) on findings in the Jammu Province. It has added to the value of the volume since they have been brought to light for the first time in the history of the period.

Dr. Sarla Khosla is an eminent scholar of Buddhism. She has written a number of articles on various aspects of Buddhism. Her History of Buddhism in Kashmir is an internationally known work.

INDIA AND HER PEOPLE
—Swami Abhedananda
1968, 340 pp, Rs. 12
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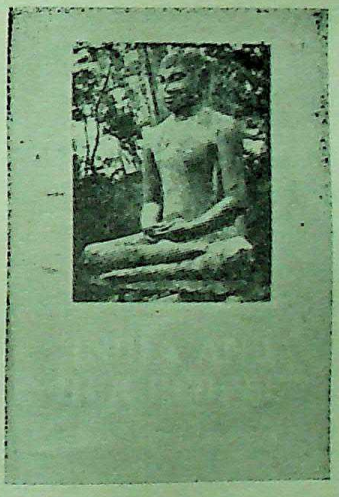

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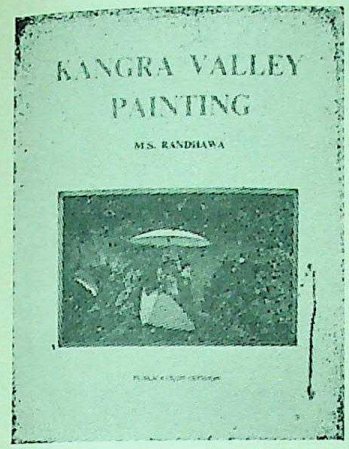
KANGRA VALLEY PAINTING
—M.S. Randhawa
1982, 68 pp, Rs. 100
Publications Division

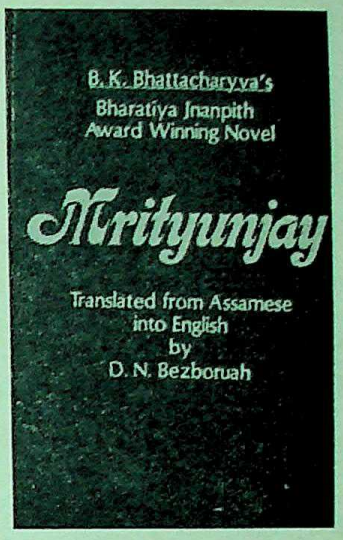


The book with its thirty colourful plates is a visual feast. These paintings were discovered from the rare and old collections of the descendants of the Rajas of the Kangra Valley who were the patrons of art. The theme of the paintings is love of Krishna for Radha. Whether it is in separation or union. These love pictures display deep intensity of feeling. In the words of Dr. Anand Coomaraswamy—"What Chinese art achieved for landscape Kangra painting have accomplished for love . . . . the arms of lovers are about each other's necks, eye meets eye, the whispering *Sakhis* speak of nothing else but the course of Krishna's courtship, the very animals are spell-bound by Krishna's flute and the elements stand still to hear the *ragas* and *raginis*."

Every culture has its own style of art and one must know the culture to understand its phases of development. This is also true of "Kangra art" states the author.

The author is a multifacted personality. The fact about the origin of this style of paintings which he confirmed was that it was Guler, and not Kangra which was the birthplace of Kangra Valley Paintings. The book is a major contribution to the world of art.

MRITYUNJAY: A Novel in Assamese
—B.K. Bhattacharyya Translated into English by D.N. Bezboruah
1982, 296 pp, Rs. 120
Sterling Publishers (P) Ltd.



The novel analyses, with remarkable sensitivity, the psyche of the revolutionary and highlights the inevitable conflict that Gandhiji's non-violence and the path of militant extremism gave rise to in the minds of those who fought for freedom. Even the Gossain, a peace-loving man of God, comes under the spell of the dauntless Dhanpur to the extent of helping him to derail a train carrying British troops. In the process they both lose their lives, but not before Gossain has stained his hands with blood. The events leading up to the derailment and the act itself are vividly narrated.

Like its narrative power, the novel excels in its delineation of character and its analysis of the human psyche. Mrityunjay also depicts with poignancy and humanism, the suffering and desolation that comes in the wake of the movement. Gossain's wife loses both.

Brindra Kumar Bhattacharyya receiver of both the Sahitya Akademi and Jnanpith awards is a distinguished Assamese novelist, poet, short story writer and critic. He teaches journalism at the Gauhati University.

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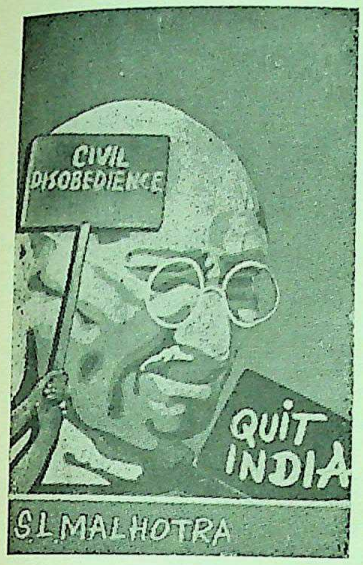
FROM CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE TO QUIT INDIA

—S.L. Malhotra

1982, 200 pp, Rs. 40

Publication Bureau, Punjab University



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Vol. IV *Gandhi Punjab and the Partition* covering 1943-47 in press.

Dr. S.L. Malhotra is head of the Department of Gandhian Studies, Punjab University, Chandigarh.

ESSAYS IN THE PRACTICE OF GOVERNMENT IN NEPAL

—Rishikesh Shaha

1982, 266 pp, Rs. 110

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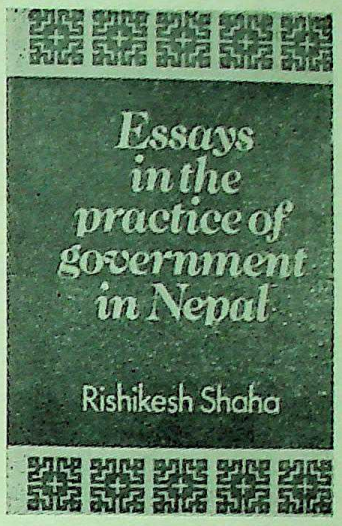

The essays in this book cover a wide spectrum of Nepali politics from the early rule of the Shah kings to the role of patrimonial elites in modern Nepal under the aegis of a traditional monarchy to the dominance of that monarchy again following the 1951 revolution's triumph over the all-powerful Ranas. The book opens with a study of the different aspects of elitism with a focus on the character of the patrimonial system of elitism politics as it has prevailed in Nepal. An attempt has been made in the two subsequent essays to delineate the features of the patrimonial pattern of elitist politics in vogue during the direct rule by the kings of the Shah dynasty (1769-1846) and also during that of the *de facto* rule of the hereditary Prime Ministers of the Rana Family (1846-1951).

The latest amendment to the constitution of Nepal that followed the referendum is dealt upon.

The author has had a successful public career as leader of political opposition, ambassador and cabinet minister and a distinguished academic career having taught at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and University of California, Berkeley.

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—Anne-Marie Gaston
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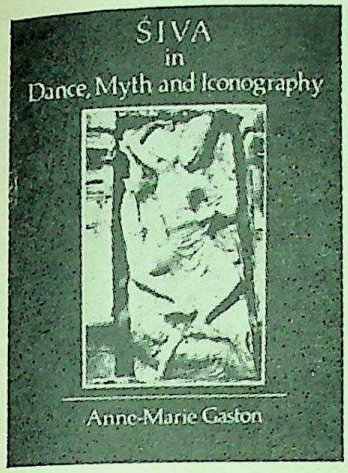
Oxford University Press



Beginning with a brief historical survey of the dance in India, which is held to originate with Siva, the author discusses its social and religious functions and its transition from worship to entertainment.

The core of the study is a review of previous classifications of Nataraja images and the presentation of a new classification based on the position of the feet. This provides a more practical categorization, and one more closely linked to actual dance movements. The new classification is then used to discuss regional and chronological variation among sculptures of Nataraja. The importance of dance as a motif in Saivite iconography is established in a discussion of other manifestations of Siva. The book contains over 400 illustrations and a map.

Anne-Marie Gaston (Anjali) is a Canadian, educated at Queen's University (Kingston, Canada) and Oxford University, has travelled extensively, visiting most of the major Hindu and Buddhist monuments of the subcontinent.

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—Narayan Chaudhuri
1980, 178 pp, Rs. 60
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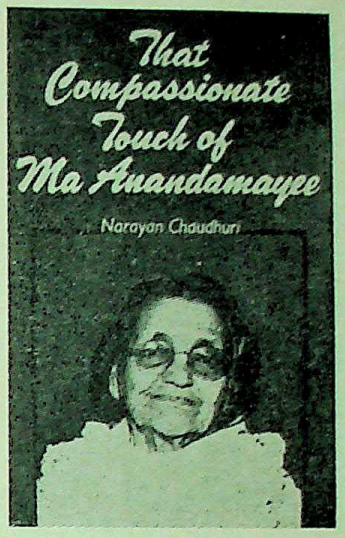

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SOCIOLOGY IN INDIA: Retrospect & Prospect

—P.K B. Nayar

1982, 460 pp, Rs. 175

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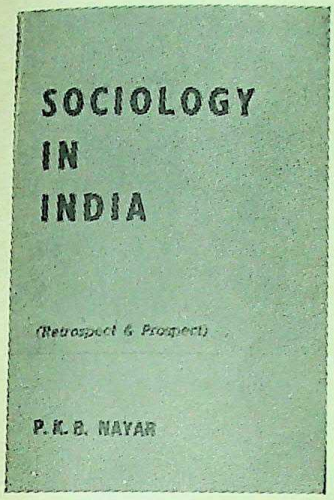

This is the first ever book giving a panoramic view of the present status and emerging trends in Indian Sociology in the 1980's The 15 articles included in this volume have been prepared by outstanding sociologists of the country, most of whom are/ were heading Sociology Departments in the leading universities of the country. The articles have been prepared with a common frame of analysis namely, a review of the developments in the disci-, pline in the 1970s and the present status and future needs from the point of view of both the discipline and the country. Such a comprehensive and focussed review of Indian Sociology has not been attempted so far. The themes include a general review of Sociology in the 1980s in retrospect and prospect, theoretical orientations and methodological perspectives for 1980s, need for a new perspective, Marxian approach to the study of Indian society, tasks of the sociologists in the 1980's, urban Sociology, industrial Sociology, Sociology of the family, education, the professions, crime, deviance, health and medical care, population and tribal culture The book is aimed at the advanced student, the policy makers, and the programme planner. The general reader and the intellectual will find it equally interesting as a reference book for study and research.

Dr. P.K.B. Nayar is Professor and Head of the Department of Sociology, University of Kerala, and Chairman, Survey Research Centre, Trivandrum.

FROM BANDUNG TO TASHKENT: Glimpses of India's Foreign Policy

—C.S. Jha

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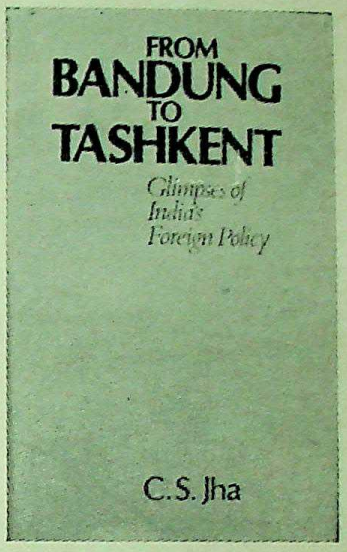

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A well known figure in many diplomatic circles, C.S. Jha was the only civil servant to hold the post of Secretary in the Foreign Office under three prime ministers—Nehru, Shastri and Indira Gandhi.

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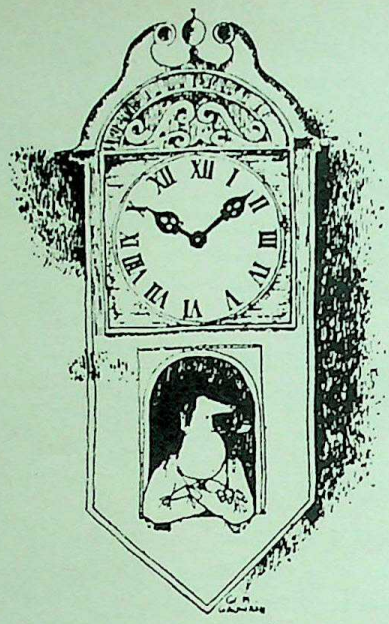

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Editor R C. Majumdar, Jt. Editor K K Dasgupta

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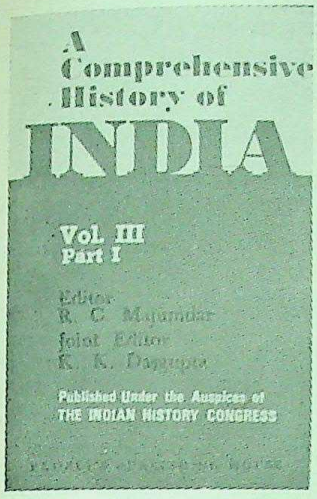

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Dr. R.C. Majumdar was professor of ancient Indian history at the Universities of Dacca, Nagpur and also at Banaras.

Dr. K.K. Dasgupta is a reader in the Department of Ancient Indian History and Archaeology, University of Calcutta.

HINDU SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY

—S. Gopalan

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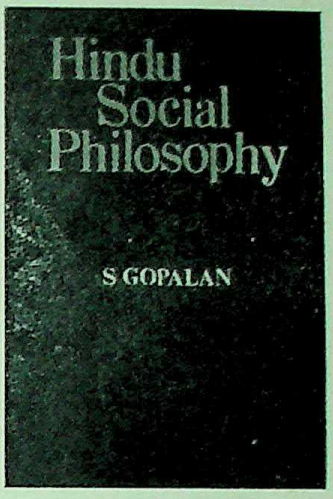

This volume discusses in detail the four dominant values of the Hindu ethical tradition, viz., *dharma*, *artha*, *kama* and *moksa* and maintains that a proper understanding of them is possible only by appreciating their social significance. The personal and the social dimensions of man-in-society are so intimately related to each other that the Hindu scheme of values offers great promise for getting at the idealistic orientations of personal as well as institutional life the author argues. Focus of concern is on the anxiological perspective, keeping in reserve an elaborate discussion of the institutional perspective for a subsequent study.

Dr. S. Gopalan is professor of philosophy at the Centre of Advanced Studies in Philosophy, University of Madras.

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Shri O.P. Ralhan is at present working in the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, a research centre on modern Indian History.

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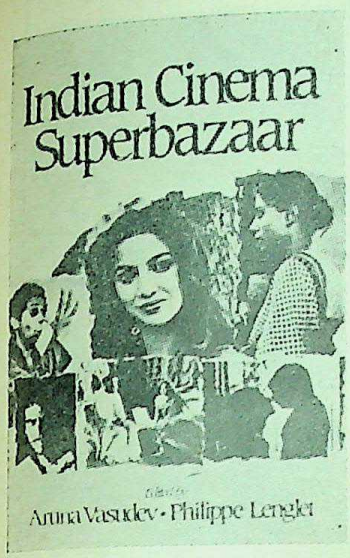
INDIAN CINEMA SUPERBAZAAR

Aruna Vasudev & Philippe Lenglet
1983, 384 pp, Rs. 150
Vikas Publishing House (P) Ltd



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The detailed interviews with all time cinema greats that contribute to this rounded picture are designed to bring to life those who make and those who act, in films. It is an inside view that enables the reader to feel he is there while a film is being made.

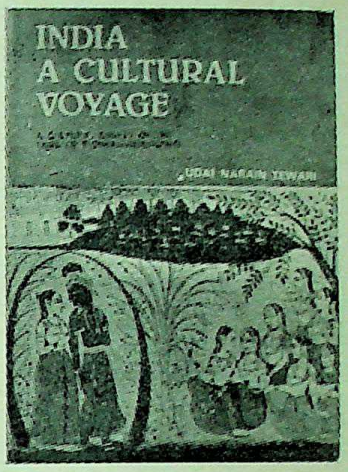
Aruna Vasudev has been a film-maker and is a film academician, a rare combination. She was trained in film-making in Paris and New York, and obtained a doctorate in Cinema from the University of Paris.

Philippe Lenglet graduated in German Literature from the University of Lille. He has taught French in Germany and Poland and is currently in charge of Cultural Activities at the Alliance Francaise, New Delhi.

INDIA A CULTURAL VOYAGE: A Cultural Survey of the Land of Eternal Resurgence

Udai Narain Tewari
1983, 254 pp, Rs. 125

Select Book Service Syndicate



India is a land of eternal resurgence. Writing history might or might not have been a vocation with ancient Indians. Creating history through a ceaseless process of an onlooking culture has definitely been a divine pastime. Cultural strides in India through more than thirty centuries is the theme of this book. It provides an insight to survey likeages of those strides lauded and aspired for by mankind. The book traces the voyage of Indian culture through its excellences in the realms of religion, philosophy, aesthetics, languages and sciences with a lively and unique system of deciphering unity in diversity. In conformity with the general design, the book contains READINGS from Kadambari, Mahabharata, Gandhi, secular saints and from flora and festivals. They resurrect glimpses of authenticity in the inner landscape of India's presences, both spiritual and material. The book is presented to the reader with deep humility and the simple hope to share moments in Indian culture.

Professor Udai Narain Tewari, a creative journalist, taught Indology at the Humboldt University, Berlin in the early seventies. In the mid eighties, he was assigned by the Government of India to programme teaching of Indian Culture at the University of Guyana, Georgetown.

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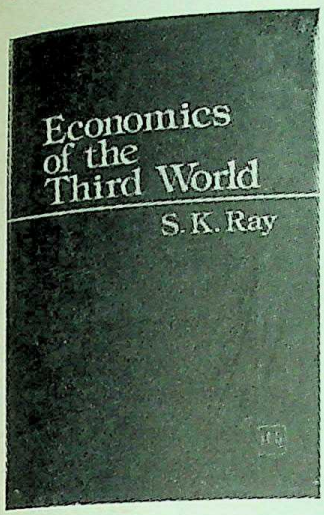
ECONOMICS OF THE THIRD WORLD

—S.K. Ray

1983, 448 pp, Rs 110

Prentice Hall of India Private Ltd.



Economics of the Third World is an inclusive analysis of the problems of the vibrant South now engaged in an unprecedented endeavour of economic growth, sometimes with the assistance and cooperation of the prosperous North and the United Nations Organisations, and often times on their own. Dr. Ray's treatise begins with an analysis of the Keynesian relevance to the economics of the Third World, and the assumptory tendencies in economic planning and management in such countries. The final chapter, North south Divide, is highly topical, and the analysis goes beyond the Cancun Summit of October 1981, right up to the middle of 1982. In the present treatise, the author has not only addressed himself to an explanation of the barriers to economic growth, but has also simultaneously developed a strategy of growth for the Third World. A unique feature is a page-by-page quintessence of the entire book included as a separate chapter at the end of the treatise.

The book contains five valuable annexures, namely, the Preface to the General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money by Lord Keynes; a synopsis of the author's earlier book 'Economics of the Black Market' an updated paper on economic growth by the world-renowned economist Prof. Amlan Datta; a Summary of Recommendations of the Report of the Brandt Commission; and a Perspective of World Development of the Decade prepared by the World Bank. These annexures have added to the worth and usefulness of the book.

The 448 pages of the book include 17 tables, 4 layout maps of the world, and 29 calligraphic diagrams. It also contains an extensive bibliography and a meticulously prepared index.

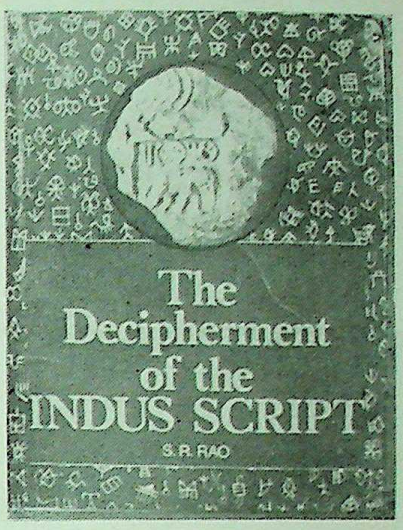
Dr. Ray has been writing profusely on the socio-economic problems of the Third World during the last two decades. He is also the recipient of the National Solidarity Scholastic Award and the President's Gold Medal.

THE DECIPHERMENT OF THE INDUS SCRIPT

—S.R. Rao

1982, pp, 488, Rs. 500

Asia Publishing House



After scanning carefully the enigmatic writing on 3000seals Prof. Rao has traced the evolution of the 'mixed writing' of the Indus people from a partly pictorgaphic system of 62 signsin to an alphabetic system of 22 signs through the rebus and syllabic stages of writing. Before going into details the author explains the different systems of writing known in the ancient world and traces the stages through which the Indus script has passed He has come to the conclusion that the Harappans, as the Indus people are called, were the inventors of the first alphabets of the world. This need not come as a surprise if we remember that the Harappans were pioneers in town-planning, dockyard construction and in the standardization of goods and services, over four thousand years ago.

By a careful analysis of the structure of the language of the Indus seals Prof. Rao has convincingly demonstrated that it belongs to the Indo-European family and not to the Dravidian group as presumed by some scholars.

Prof Rao's methodology of the decipherment of the Indus Script and identification of the Indus language as Old Indo-Aryan, bearing close affinity with the language of the *Rigveda*, have been hailed by eminent epigraphists and linguists all over the world.

This is an indispensable book for all students of Indology, history, epigraphy, archaeology, linguistics, sociology and anthropology. Even a non-specialist who is interested in the Aryan problem and the history of writing will benefit from this well-documented research work based on archaeological and linguistic evidence.

The book is profusely illustrated with grids, charts, maps and photographs. For the first time more than 1500 carefully drawn Indus inscriptions have been

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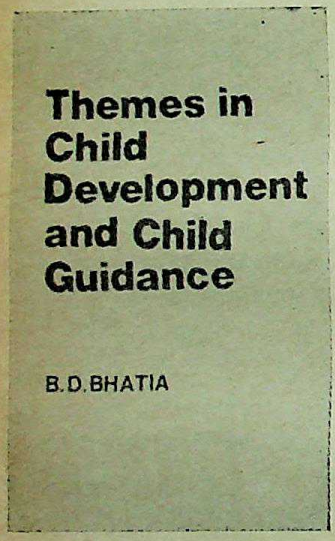
listed and analysed. The 'Harappan chrestomathy' gives the etymology of every Harappan word and traces, wherever possible, its relation to other Indo-European words.

The general index is supplemented by an index of Harappan and Sanskrit words.

S.R. Rao started his career as an archaeologist in 1948. Since then he has been working with the Archaeological Survey of India in various capacities.

THEMES IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND CHILD GUIDANCE
—B.D. Bhatia
1982, 232 pp, Rs 60
Doaba House



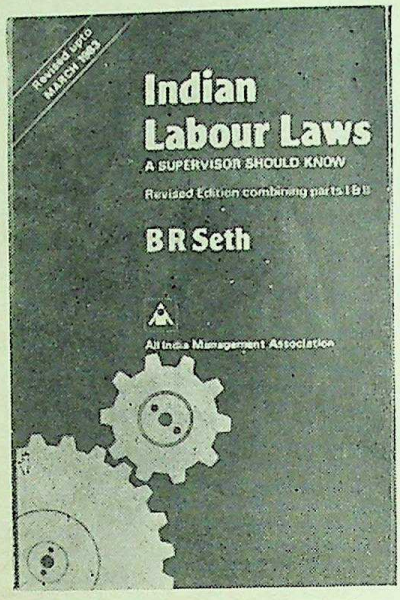
This book on "Themes in Child Development and Child Guidance" will be useful for students and practitioners in Psychology, Child Development and Child Guidance, and Home Science. Paediatric nurses, Psychiatric nurses, parents, teachers, social workers, doctors and counsellors will also find it very useful.

Students of Psychology at the B.A., B.Ed, M A. and M. Ed levels will find it a valuable guide in their enquiries into Child Guidance and Child Development, because of the large variety of topics covered in Part 1, such as Piaget's Theory of Cognitive Development, Theoretical Perspectives on Language Acquisition, Early Growth of Competence, the Importance of Early Stimulation, The Impact of Changing Indian Family on Child Development.

In Part II there are articles on Behaviour Problems in Children at Home and School, the Emotionally Disturbed Child, Children with Learning Disabilities, Intellectually Gifted Children, and Disciplining Children, among others.

The author was Head of the Department of Psychology and Founder Director of the Child Guidance Clinic of the College of Nursing, New Delhi, for many years.

INDIAN LABOUR LAWS: Supervisor should know (Revised Edition combining Parts I & II)
—B.R. Seth
1983, 240 pp, Rs. 45
All India Management Association



This handy little book, now in its fifth edition, needs no fresh introduction. Its usefulness to managers, supervisors and the workers is established by the popularity it has enjoyed all these years among such readers. This fifth edition comes to you exhaustively revised and updated, and made more comprehensive to cover legislation on the anvil and also those which are being thought about for the future. It is hoped that the attempt here to present the complex labour laws and many legal aspects of industrialr elations in simple terms finds as enthusiastic a response as it did in the earlier years.

Dr. B.R. Seth took his Ph.D. in Economics and started his career as a lecturer in Economics in Lucknow University. Since 1969 he has been practising as a Consultant in labour laws and industrial relations.

South-East Asia In Indian Foreign Policy
—Asis Kumar Majumdar
A study of India's relations with South-East Asian countries from 1962-82.
Demy 8vo; pp. XVI+253; Rs. 95-00 (Cloth)

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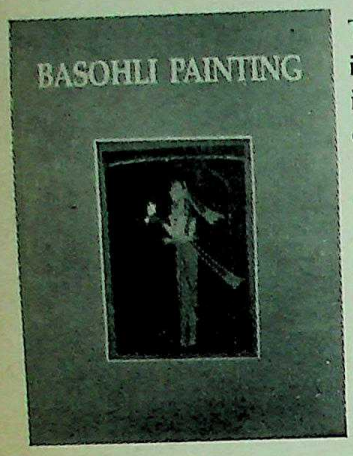
BASOHLI PAINTING
M.S. Randhawa
1981, 116 pp, Rs 200
Publications Division

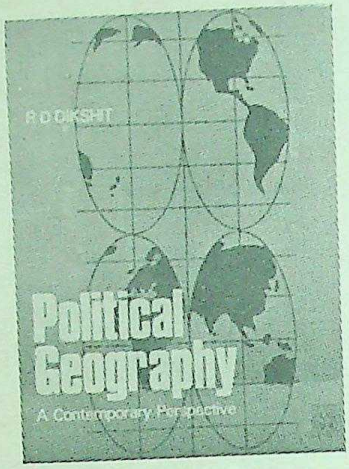


This fine art flourished in theWestern Himalayas in the 17th and 18th centrury. It's simplicity and use of vibrant colours are characteristic of its genre; its beauty stems from its fusion from hill folk art and Mughal Technique.

The book contains the history of Basohli art, various opinions on its origins, the main centres in which it grew and flourished as well as the characteristics and themes of the paintings. The glossary of indigenous terms would especially benefit the foreign reader. In a subtle manner, M.S Randhawa has managed to transmit his love for this art very effectively to the reader.

Thirty seven exquisitely produced plates bear ample testimony to the beauty of Basohli Painting. The beautifully brought out volume will be treasured by researchers and appeal aesthetically to any individual inclined towards the fine arts.

POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY: A Contemporary Perspective
R.D. Dikshit
1982, 288 pp, Rs. 27
Tata McGraw-Hill Publishing Co. Ltd.



The book is designed to fill a long felt need for a single, authoritative volume in this increasingly important area. It presents a comprehensive review of the status and content of the subject, charting out in detail the nature and development of political geography as it is emerging through recent attempts at reformation and improvement. Written in a lucid, to-the-point style, this book will educate the novice, stimulate the seasoned reader, provide an excellent text to university level students, and offer the researcher a useful guide to current literature.

R.D. Dikshit, Ph D (Australian National University, Canberra), is Professor and Head of the Department of Geography, Punjabi University, Patiala.

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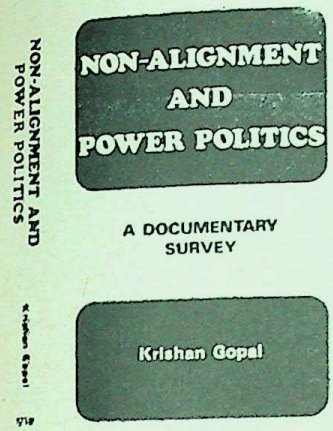
SOVIET UNION & NON-ALIGNMENT

Non-Alignment & Power Politics: A documentary Survey

Krishan Gopal

1983. pp 235, Rs. 125

V.I. Publications, New Delhi



India as a founder-member has made constructive contribution towards the success of the movement since the early sixties when Jawaharlal Nehru was in its forefront.

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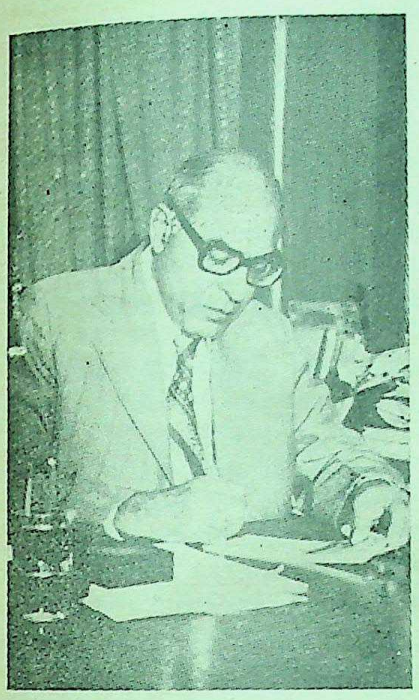

O.P. GHAI

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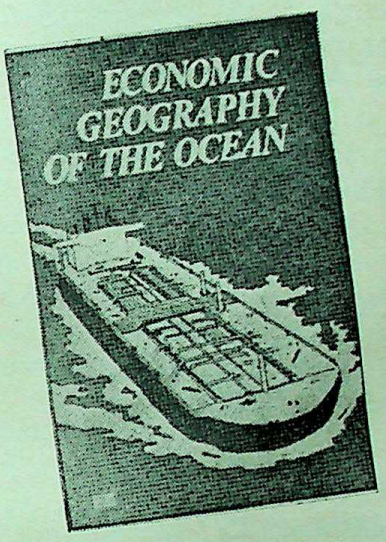

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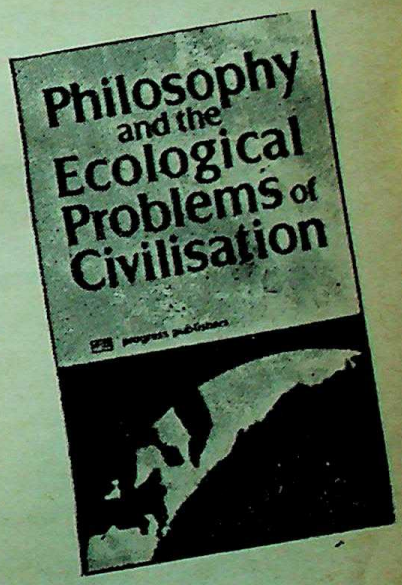

blochemist, and also spaceman V.I. Sevastyanov, all of whom are developing certain philosophical aspects of human ecology. Taken together the essays give a broad idea of the Marxist Leninist understanding of the ecological problem and of the various approaches to it and ways of tackling it.

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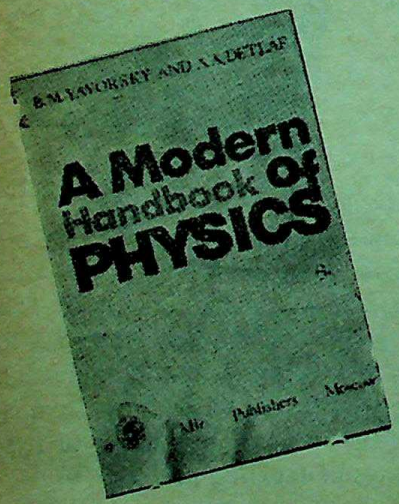

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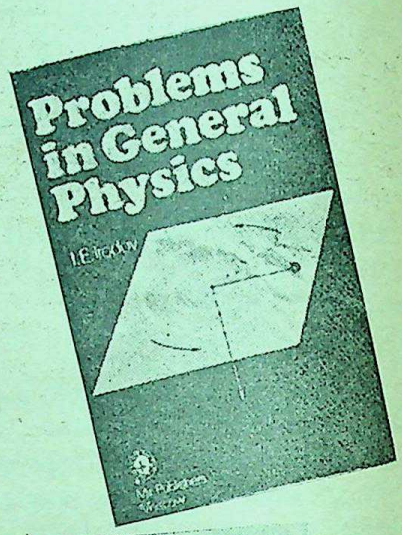

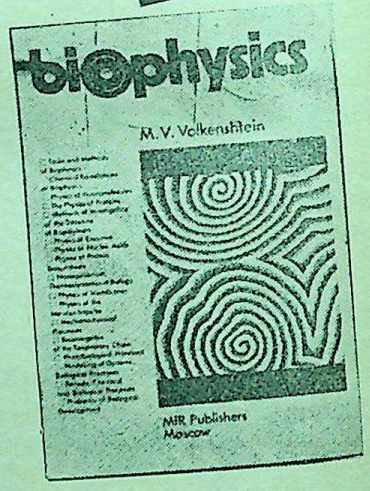

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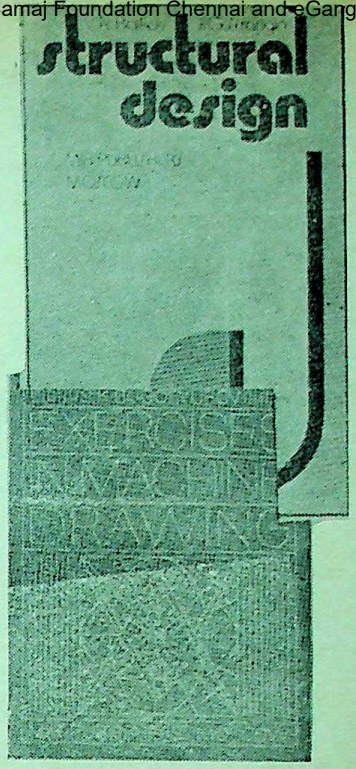

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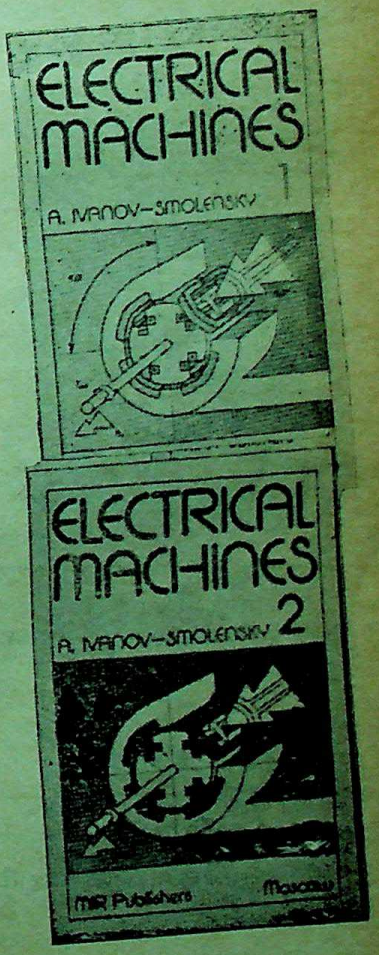

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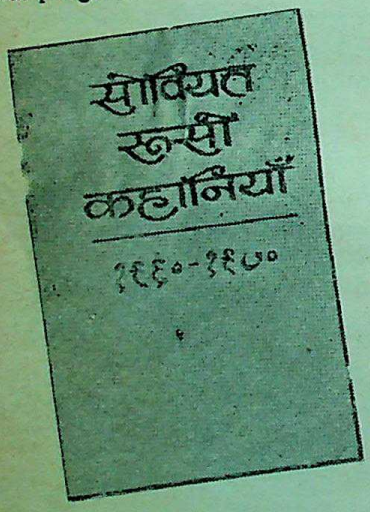

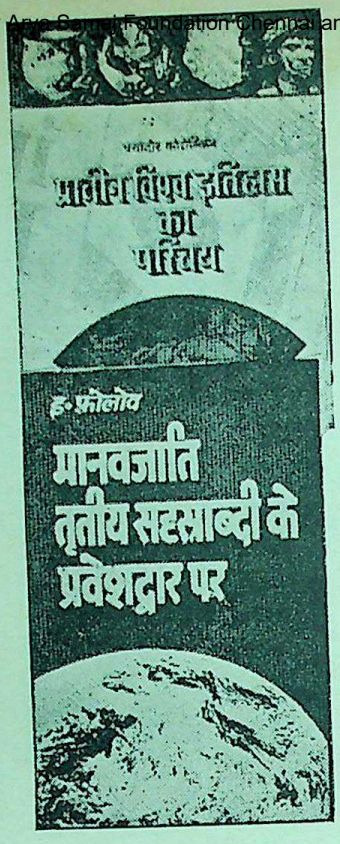

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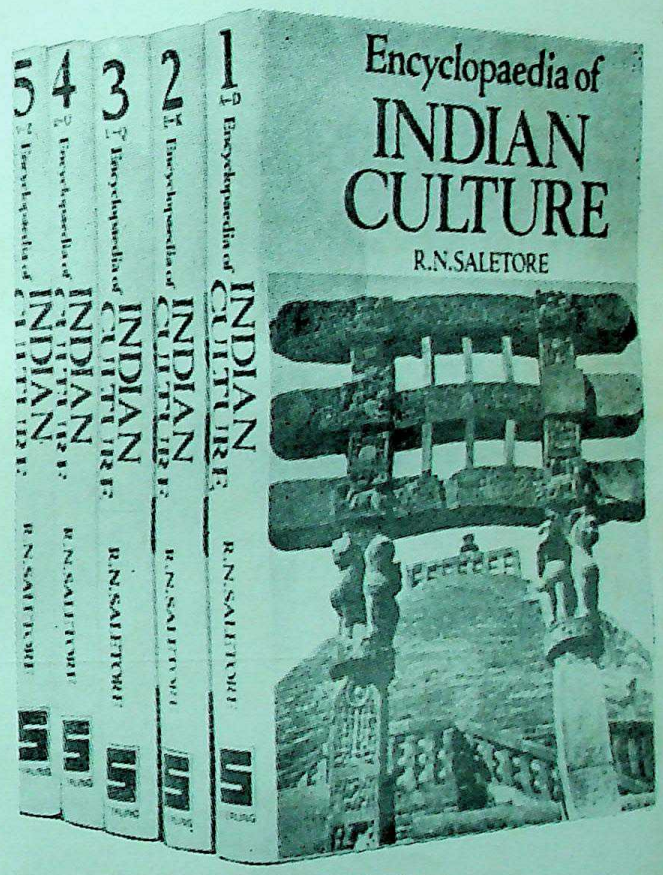

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Victor Mushtukov and Lev Tikhonov
THE MUSEUMS OF LENINGRAD
pp. 107, Rs 5.00, 1982

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The reference section supplies addresses of the museums, their working hours, cost of tickets and the transport facilities.

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History

HISTORY OF THE USSR-(Part III)
pp. 365, Rs 8.00, 1982

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CIVILISATION AND THE HISTORICAL PROCESS
pp. 410, Rs 9.00, 1983

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Vladimir Bogomolov

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Politics

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THE USSR IN WORLD POLITICS
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Guest Editorial

THE WORLD BOOK FAIR: WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

*—Vishwanath**

An International Book Fair must acquire a personality, a character, a face and an identity of its own. That implies clarity at the conceptual stage and a persistent effort over the years to invest it with the cherished character. That also implies a continuity of efforts on the part of a highly intelligent and committed Director who works like an inspired man to make the Fair a spectacular success and discover its personality. If Frankfurt Book Fair is what it is today, credit naturally goes to Mr Taubert who gave the best years of his life as the Director of the Fair and was totally involved in it. He provided the continuity of his sustained efforts for the flowering of a concept, and let us not forget that Mr Taubert happened to be a 'committed book-man' and a scholar of no mean merit and a man of ideas. Mr Peter Weidhaas who has taken his place is an equally committed bookman.

It is pertinent to raise these questions about the World Book Fair, as it has become a routine bureaucratic affair which for all practical purposes has turned, by and large, into an Exhibition-cum-Sales Event of imported books and remainders. There is a lack of genuine interest and excitement about this otherwise important international event which could have grown from strength to strength with every successive year. Today we find hardly any enthusiastic preparations for it in the book trade. Even for the NBT, it has become another 'Bi-annual Show' and it seems that even they have lost the zest for it as is evident from the poorly produced brochure put out by them for international circulation.

If the publishers still book stalls in the fair, it is because they would not like to be 'left out', and if there is substantial foreign participation, it would again be largely on account of considerations of diplomatic reasons and pressures. There have been persistent complaints about the lay-out and designing of the Book Fair from the stall-holders. If one gets a stall at a prominent place, by chance, one may fare better otherwise one is lost in the quagmire of poorly designed, narrow, insufficiently lighted lanes of book-stalls. I simply fail to appreciate why the designing cannot be improved to provide well-lighted broader lanes where the participants have a feeling of fair play in the allotment of stalls and where the visitors also do not have a feeling of being cramped?

I strongly feel that our World Book Fair deserves a clear cut identity

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of its own which should in due course come to be recognised in international forums as well. I suggest that we should immediately work towards converting it into the "International Book Fair of Asia", or may be of "the Third World." This objective will not be achieved by merely adding a bye-line or changing its nomenclature. We will have to project its required image through carefully planned meaningful programmes—seminars, workshops, conferences and exhibitions, wherein the top publishers of these regions actively participate. India presently being the Chairman of the NAM, it is high time our World Book Fair also takes a lead in the matter.

We should also consider having a 'theme' for World Book Fair; and displays, exhibitions, and programmes should be intelligently planned to focus on that theme. For instance, this year, it could be the 'Middle-East Book Scene' or 'Books from Africa', or any other theme. There could be a 'sound and light show' also revolving round the theme.

There is a misconception with our Government that the main objective of this Fair is to provide an occasion and space for the sale of books. They even believe that by having a 'Book Bazaar' for discount sales, they are serving a good cause. With this sort of confusion about the objective of the Fair and an outlook, which is narrow, limited and unimaginative, one cannot expect anything better than what has been happening so far. It is the duty of the spokesmen of the book industry to raise this basic question with the NBT and ensure that the purpose and objective of the Fair are clearly defined in terms of the larger interests of Indian Publishers as well as befitting our International Status.

VISHWANATH

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Book Publishing in India: Past and Present*

Samuel Israel

'The Art of the Book in India' was the theme of one of the many exhibitions of Indian interest held in Britain in the course of the 1982 Festival of India. The exhibition was devoted to manuscript books, not printed ones, which is the concern of this article. Nevertheless, those who had the good fortune to see these Indian treasures from the British Library and those who got some glimpses of them in the introduction-cum - annotated - catalogue, *The Art of the Book in India*, which was published for general sale, were given a much-needed reminder that the book is as much in the Indian tradition as temple architecture and sculpture.

Printing from wooden, clay or stone blocks or seals in India goes back to a period as early as the Indus Valley civilization, but these blocks essentially reproduced illustrations or designs, with only very limited amounts of text, if any, inscribed on them, unlike the Chinese wooden blocks used for making multiple copies of both extensive text and illustrations. By some chance, however, the earliest known specimen of a printed book, *The Hiraka* (Diamond) *Sutra*, printed from wooden blocks in China in the ninth century after Christ, is a Chinese translation of an Indian Buddhist text.

The traditional materials for the early Indian books were long narrow strips of dried palm-leaf and cotton fabrics. The nature of these materials determined the form of the books fabricated from them, and even when paper came to India (from China, through the agency of Arab paper-makers who had acquired the technique), the format of Indian books continued to be influenced by the shapes dictated by the nature of the earlier materials— scrolls and long, oblong-shaped bound books which were held horizontally for reading the text, often set in two columns to a page. As one read on one moved from the upper to the lower page, rather than from the left-hand page to the right-hand one. It was the influence of Iranian and Arab techniques of book-making, and also of the European book, that led to the adoption of the currently common format. However, some religious books in India even today adopt the horizontal, oblong ('landscape-style') format, though they are manufactured in modern printing and binding plants.

Printing from movable metal type came to India about a hundred years after the issue of Gutenberg's first Bible in 1456, the first printing press in India being set up by Jesuit missionaries in the then Portuguese colony of Goa, on India's west coast, round about 1556. The object was, of course, the propagation of the Christian faith.

The books printed in Goa were initially in Latin and Portuguese, and perhaps occasionally in an Indian language transcribed in the roman script. Later the cutting of moulds (matrixes) and casting of types for Indian languages was also undertaken. The first Indian script for which type was cast (in Goa) was Tamil, the language of the state of Tamil Nadu on the south-east coast.

Printing activity in Goa continued only till about the end of the seventeenth century. It was only in 1821 that printing returned to Goa, by which time, in other parts of the country, it was already well established.

The Portuguese reluctance to encourage the growth of printing in India seems to have been shared by the British East India Company during the earlier years of its operations. The need for printing in support of their commercial activities does not seem to have been

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felt, or felt strongly enough to provoke action. Missionaries who might have utilized printing presses, as did the Jesuits in Goa, and as did British and American missionaries in later years, were not permitted to function in areas in which the East India Company traded. This was for fear that their activities would cause political complications with local rulers and the suzerain Mughal emperor in Delhi, in whose territories they had been permitted to operate. Later, as the British gained increasing political and military control, these hesitations disappeared. However, they did persist well into the nineteenth century.

British indifference to the development of printing facilities in India is understandable in the light of their generally negative attitude to educational and industrial development in India. Less understandable is the failure of even the more enlightened of the Mughals, the Marathas and the Sikhs, who at various times controlled large territories, to grasp the significance and power of this instrument of education, of moulding public opinion. Perhaps it was the very power of the press for mass enlightenment that made Indian rulers indifferent and the British hostile to its development.

After the decline of printing activity under the Portuguese, it was left to the private initiative and resources of an Indian merchant to attempt a revival at the end of the seventeenth century. The merchant, Bhimji Parakh, persuaded the East India Company authorities at Surat (then an important port on the west coast some 240 kilometres north of Bombay) to import on his behalf and at his expense both a printing press and a printer. Parakh set up and started working the press in Bombay in 1674-75. The project did not prosper, largely owing to the failure of attempts to cut and cast Indian typefaces. The project seems to have been abandoned by 1677.

It was missionaries again who finally established printing in India. In 1712, a Danish group set up a press at Tranquebar, near Madras. Since then, India has never been without printing facilities.

At Tranquebar, in addition to printing, the Danes successfully undertook the cutting and casting of types for Indian scripts, an activity which was carried forward even more vigorously at another Danish missionary settlement at Serampore, near Calcutta. In view of restrictions on missionary activities in British-controlled areas, a British missionary, Dr William Carey, an outstanding linguistic scholar, had attached himself to the Serampore settlement where, along with British and Danish colleagues and with the help of an Indian typefounder, he set up the Serampore Missionary Press which, between 1801 and 1832, printed and published 2,12,000 volumes in forty languages.

Somewhat earlier, by 1778, in Calcutta itself, a press and typefoundry had been set up to serve the needs of the college for the training of civil servants functioning in Fort St William. By the end of the eighteenth century, a number of other presses had been set up in Calcutta. By 1863, Madras had ten presses. In Bombay, by the end of the eighteenth century, a number of presses had been established.

Early in the nineteenth century, the Bombay government sponsored and supported the publication of Indian-language and English textbooks for schools and also scholarly works in English on educational and other matters. At about the same time missionaries from the United States were permitted to set up the American Mission Press in Bombay, which also printed and published a substantial amount of educational and scholarly material, in addition to religious tracts and other material on Christianity. The Marathi works published by this press made a particular mark. A measure of the growth of publishing activity in the Presidency by the end of the nineteenth century can be gathered from a contemporary newspaper report that noted that, in the course of 1881, 'The total number of books published (in the Presidency) was 931, of which 117 were "European", and the balance 'Oriental".' This information was drawn from the Annual Report of the Registrar of Native Publications, Bombay Presidency, from which it was also gathered that:

> The Oriental books are generally written in five languages—Marathi, Gujarati, Canarese, Sindi, and Hindustani; but there are also a few books in Sanscrit, Persian and Arabic, and two each in Zend and Magadhi. Of the 814 Oriental publications, 347 were original, 58 translations and 409 were reprints.....*

It will be noted that even a hundred years ago, from a single metropolitan city, admittedly the most cosmopolitan in the country, it was found necessary to publish in five major languages, in addition to English, not to mention the publications in classical and religious languages like Sanskrit, Arabic and Zend (the last to serve Bombay's Zoroastrian community which was Iranian in origin). To meet the needs of only the *major* Indian language groups, it is necessary to publish in a minimum of eleven languages.

*Quoted from *The Times of India*, Bombay, 22 August 1882, in *The Times of India*, Delhi, 21 August 1982, in the daily feature, 'A Hundred Years Ago'. The then Bombay Presidency comprised Marathi, Gujarati, Sindhi and Kannada (Canarese)-speaking areas. Hindustani (Hindi), the language of large areas of north India, in which about half of India's population lives, was the language of a very substantial number of immigrants to Bombay city.

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It is perhaps necessary to mention for the benefit of those not familiar with India's linguistic situation that these language-groups are of substantial size. Some 250 million speak Hindi, 110 million speak Telugu, 62 million speak Marathi, 37 million speak Kannada, and the smallest of the *major* linguistic groups, the Punjabis, are 16 million in number. In addition, there is Urdu spoken by millions of Muslims scattered all over the country (though in the main not those in southern and eastern India), especially by those in Uttar Pradesh and the districts of Andhra Pradesh that were previously part of the Nizam's dominion of Hyderabad; and Sindhi, spoken by millions who migrated from Sind, which is now in Pakistan, to the Indian side of the border on the partition of the subcontinent in 1947, and who now live in scattered communities all over the country, but especially in western India.

To be noted is the position occupied by English in India and, as a consequence, in the structure of Indian book publishing. From the quotations from *The Times of India* a little earlier in the article, it can be calculated that, in 1881, of all the books published in the Bombay Presidency, only some twelve per cent were in English. The all-India picture was perhaps not very different. Today, of all the new books and new editions of books published annually in India, about forty per cent are in English, as will be seen from the accompanying table which gives figures of Indian book production in recent years. We will return to this point later in this article, but it might immediately be pointed out that the figure for book production in Hindi has been indicated separately, as it has been for English, in view of the fact that this language leads other Indian languages in terms of number of titles published annually. This is, of course, to be expected in view of the large area and population served by Hindi, but there is an additional factor: Hindi is being actively promoted as the official language of the Government of India (a role it currently shares with English), besides being actively promoted and widely used for administration and education in the extensive and populous Hindi-speaking states of the Indian Union.

In spite of this encouragement of Hindi, and similar encouragement to other major Indian languages by governments of states in which they are spoken, and in spite of long-standing traditions of literature and learning, publishing in these languages has not as yet been able to catch up with English-language publishing. As was mentioned a little earlier, a hundred and fifty years ago, at least in the then Bombay Presidency, and probably elsewhere in the country also, the proportion of English-language books was much lower.

As British rule in India came to be consolidated and when the British government took over direct responsibility for the administration of India from the East India Company in 1858, the need to employ Indians in the administrative machine became evident, though it was to be long before Indians were permitted to occupy senior positions. It became necessary to provide English-language education to large numbers of Indians as English had been adopted as the main language of the administration, the local languages being used only for limited purposes at the local level.

While a number of British administrators were required to acquire some proficiency in Indian languages, most were satisfied with just enough to get on with their jobs with the assistance of local subordinates. But there were among the administrators, and also among the missionaries, gifted and cultured individuals who were drawn deeper by the inherent interest and significance of Indian history, thought and literature. A number of such westerners contributed very substantially to bringing traditional Indian studies within the ambit of modern western scholarship on the one hand, and the methodology and advances in modern western scholarship to traditional Indian scholarship, on the other.

Early Indian scholarly publishing owes much to works by these scholars. Indian-language publishing grew largely out of the studies of these individuals. The earliest educational publishing, as has been mentioned earlier, was missionary or government sponsored, and textbook publishing in Indian languages has expanded ever since, the rate

*BOOK PRODUCTION IN INDIA: 1978-79—1981-82**

	1978-79	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82
English	7,089	7,512	7,655	6,983
Hindi	2,966	2,191	2,225	2,556
Other languages	8,529	6,763	7,570	7,257
Total	18,584	16,466	17,450	16,796

*Only new books and new editions of books are enumerated. Reprints and new impressions are not centrally recorded.

Source: Abul Hasan (Books Officer, Ministry of Education, Government of India): 'Promoting Indian Books, A Cooperative Endeavour', *Indian Author*, New Delhi, Vol. 7, No. 1 (July-September 1982).

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of expansion accelerating rapidly with the rapid expansion of education at all levels that followed Indian independence in 1947.

The increase in textbook production since independence is not adequately reflected by the figures in the preceding table. These enumerate only new and substantially revised titles and exclude reprints, which the majority of school and even college textbooks are bound to be, year after year. If reprints had been included in the enumeration, it is reasonable to expect that Hindi and other Indian languages would have made a better showing. (It will be recalled that, as mentioned earlier, the Registrar of Native Publications, Bombay Presidency, had reported that in 1881, of the 931 books published in the Presidency, as many as 409 were reprints.) Even so, the leading position of English in the publishing of books other than textbooks even in independent India needs explanation.

The decision that turned the scales in favour of English was one taken in 1835. After a prolonged and often heated controversy between the 'orientalists' (with a number of Britishers among them) and the 'anglicists' (with a number of Indians among their numbers), the policy advocated by the latter gained the endorsement of the British authorities. From then on it became the settled policy of the British government in India to run the administration, including the administration of justice, in English and, most significant for the future of Indian book publishing, to conduct all higher education in the English medium. Textbooks in English were therefore increasingly required.

This growing demand could not be adequately met by imports from Britain alone, especially at the primary and lower secondary levels. These latter particularly called for textbooks presenting their material in settings familiar to the children who were to use them. Even at higher levels, especially in the humanities and social sciences, relevance to the national and regional context and local applicability were essential.

The first to step in to exploit the growing market for specifically Indian textbooks were the Indian offices of the major British textbook publishers who had previously only imported books from their principals in Britain. Often the special Indian textbooks issued by these companies continued to be by British authors or were adaptations of British books to meet Indian needs; some were specially written for India by British authors who were or had been active in education in India, and some of these books, including some by Indian authors, were printed and published in Britain and imported into India.

By the thirties, Indian publishers also had entered the field of textbook publishing in a substantial way; not only of textbooks in Indian languages for schools, but also textbooks in English for high schools and colleges. However, till the second world war and, fact, even through the war, in spite of import difficulties, the British textbook continued to be dominant in Indian university education. The war years did, however, bring substantial progress to the Indian college-textbook industry, in spite of severe shortages of paper. Since the medium of instruction in the colleges was English, this expansion added to the volume of English-language publishing in the country.

Scholarly publishing and the publishing of books for the general reader, of both fiction and non-fiction, also developed, but in directions strongly influenced by the country's circumstances at the time.

The quantity of imaginative literature being written in English in India prior to independence was naturally limited, as, comparatively, it still is today. Even when what was written had substantial merit, it did not get easily published, and when published faced difficulties in gaining recognition and markets. As was to be expected, it was in Indian languages that the vast majority of Indian poets and fiction-writers expressed themselves. Even for these, however, markets were limited and were undeveloped even where potential existed. Monetary returns to authors (and publishers) were meagre.

Scholarly publishing was predominantly in English, since all higher education, except in the traditional institutions, was in English. Scholarly writing in Indian languages tended to be confined to the traditional areas of religion and philosophy (in which areas books were increasingly being written in English also), Indian systems of music, linguistics and literary criticism related to the languages concerned, and historical studies of regional interest.

The picture is no different today. The vast majority of modern Indian scholars are bilingual (in English and their own language). Having received their higher education and having operated as scholars in the English language, most of them, even when fully fluent in their own languages, prefer to do their professional writing in English, since this ensures world-wide exposure. In fact, even for all-India communication of scholarship, English, is still the best medium. Once such material is available in English, it is superfluous and uneconomic to make it available in Indian languages also. Almost all who are likely

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to be interested are well served by the original English and there is very little demand for translations, except in the case of works of fairly wide regional interest.

Pre-independence publishing of books of general interest, other than fiction, was largely influenced by the national struggle for freedom and concern for India's economic, social and cultural problems. In fact, even fiction did not remain untouched by their influence. The British publishing companies operating in India did little in this direction, especially as far as books by Indian authors were concerned, but between the two wars a number of Indians were writing about these matters and a number of Indian publishers published their works.

Thus, general publishing in India during the years between the wars was often politically and socially oriented. If the books did not directly relate to India's freedom movement, they would more often than not deal with social reform or economic problems. Much of such material was published in Indian languages, particularly when it dealt directly with the struggle for independence, but a majority of the longer works were in English.

Two other areas of pre-independence publishing must also be mentioned: what might be called Anglo-Indian publishing and government publishing.

Anglo-Indian publishing was aimed primarily at people from Britain and people of British origin in India, though a number of such works were of wider interest and there was even a fair output of scholarly works in this category. The books were published by some major British book importers who also ran bookshops in major towns. Among the popular subjects covered were gardening, cooking, pets, wildlife, hunting, travel, and self-teachers for Indian languages.

Official publishing was not confined to reports, gazetteers, manuals, and laws and regulations. At the provincial level, even some Indian-language textbooks for elementary schools were published officially. Also officially published were valuable material emanating from government departments, central and provincial, concerned with agriculture, animal husbandry, archaeology, geology, topography, medicine and public health.

The years of the second world war, with the heightening of political and social consciousness and the intensification of the struggle for independence among ever-widening circles of people, saw a spurt of political publishing (and also of pamphleteering, both legal and illegal) which was carried over to the immediate post-war period and was to shape the pattern of general publishing in India immediately after independence.

With the ending of the war and the imminence of independence, minds turned to the solution of social and economic problems: to construction and reconstruction; to the eradication of poverty; to land reform; to self-sufficiency in food-grains; to industrialization and modernization—all of which came to be referred to collectively or, rather, integrally, as development. This activity and thinking was carried over into the years of independence after 15 August 1947 and these concerns continue to exercise the minds of Indian scholars even today. India's place in the world fellowship of nations, her relations with her immediate neighbours, her role in the non-aligned movement and in world forums—these concerns also increasingly demanded attention.

It was this scholarly activity that provided material for publication by the rising post-independence book-publishing industry. It also created the market for such works by way of a rapid expansion of the library system attached to colleges, universities, and institutions of higher learning and research. This market was later supplemented by exports of Indian scholarly works. This made it possible for a number of publishers to publish fairly specialized works on a purely commercial basis, which would otherwise not have been feasible.

As mentioned earlier, the post-independence encouragement of Hindi and other Indian languages did not do much to change the position concerning the publication of scholarly works in Indian languages. Creative writing in Indian languages and its publication did however progress substantially, even if it as yet could not be said to have led to any real measure of prosperity for either authors or publishers of serious literature.

There has been a steady increase in both the amount and quality of creative Indian writing in English and, significantly, in the translation into English of a number of outstanding works of fiction from Indian languages. Even some poetry has been translated and published. More activity in this direction would certainly be possible if there were more scope for successful publication of such material. The internal market for serious literature in English by Indian authors has still to be fully developed and the western world has, by and large, still to be convinced that Indian writing in English or translations of outstanding fiction written in Indian languages have a significance for the world literary scene.

An area of some success for Indian fiction has been low-priced paperbacks. As is to be expected, it is mainly light fiction (crime,

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adventure, romance) that is included in popular paperback series. English-language paperbacks have also provided scope for original Indian fiction in English and English translations of fiction in Indian languages, but only to a limited extent. Non-fiction paperbacks are also being published, mainly in English, but again mainly in popular areas like self-improvement, 'do it yourself', 'teach yourself...', and home medicine. A significant part of India's paperback industry is engaged in issuing reprints of popular US and British 'bestsellers'.

Immediately after independence, Indian publishers moved promptly into the publishing of school textbooks, a field in which the offices of British publishers in India were still dominant. However, by the middle sixties, the process of 'nationalization' had progressed substantially. In state after state of the Indian Union, on a steadily increasing scale, school-textbook publishing has been entrusted, as state-wise monopolies, to government-sponsored and controlled textbook boards or bureaus. Today, except for schools following the national (all-India) system, 'nationalization' is virtually complete. This has closed a very lucrative area of operation to Indian publishers in the private sector, whether of English or Indian-language books. As is to be expected, the private sector is highly critical of this policy. Though, in the circumstances of India, it is appreciated by all that the state has a responsibility to provide school textbooks at low or even subsidized prices for the less well-off among its citizens, industry spokesmen stress that a monopoly in the preparation and publishing of this important educational tool is not healthy and that, therefore, the private sector must be allowed to operate in the school textbook field along and in competition with the public sector. This, it is argued, will lead to higher standards all round. It will also, industry spokesmen state quite frankly, help to bring financial stability to the industry, which sections of it lack today.

At the university level, the textbook field is fully open to the private sector, but in the fields of science, medicine and engineering particularly, Indian publishers have had to face competition from imported books—especially those from the United States and Britain. Both these countries have made low-cost subsidized reprints of a number of their textbooks available to Indian students. In spite of this, the Indian-authored and published textbook has been steadily gaining ground, even in science, medicine and engineering, at the levels and in subjects for which the enrolment is large enough to support it. Specialized monographs are published only by publishers who can get an export market to supplement limited Indian sales.

Of assistance to some publishers in the successful publishing of university-level textbooks in English has been a subsidy scheme administered by the National Book Trust, India, on behalf of the Ministry of Education. The assistance provided to approved textbooks enables publishers to price them at levels students can afford to pay, thus enhancing sales. The scheme also ensures minimum advance royalty payments to authors immediately after publication. Publishers of scientific and technical books have especially benefited. Without this initial assistance, it would be impossible to manage the economics of production and pricing of many of their publications in view of the high cost of good quality mathematical typesetting and the soaring costs of paper and printing and binding services.

It has to be said again that the major advance in the university textbook sector has been by English-language publishers, but there have also been substantial advances by the Indian-language sector. In the populous Hindi-speaking states a large portion of undergraduate instruction (except in medicine and engineering) is now in Hindi. Similar situations exist in the other constituent states of the Indian Union in relation to their respective languages. Indian-language publishers have come forward to meet the developing demand, but a lot of ground has yet to be covered and even students receiving instruction and offering examinations in Indian languages have still often to rely on English-languages textbooks. The positive aspect of this is that it shows that there is as yet ample scope for expansion of Indian-language textbook publishing.

While publishing in Indian languages can be expected to expand steadily over the eighties and nineties and the *proportion* of English books in total book production is likely to fall, the total *number* of English titles produced annually can also be expected to grow to meet the growing internal demand for books in this language and also the demand of the export market.

The sector of children's books has always been and continues to be very poorly served. The reasons are essentially economic; it is not a matter of publishers failing to appreciate the vital importance of the sector. Since independence, a number of series of recreational books for children (fiction and non-fiction) have been launched, in English and in Indian languages, with varying degrees of success (and, unfortunately, failure). However successful some of them might

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have been in terms of profitability, none has really succeeded in reaching the large masses of India's school-going children and literate young adults. A combination of factors contributes to this situation. Inadequate promotion and the weakness of the book-distribution system are among them, but most important is the impossibility of making attractive, well-illustrated books available at prices that children and parents can afford. Government or institutional support is obviously called for and has been forthcoming but, so far, on a very small scale, considering the vastness of the needs.

The Children's Book Trust, Delhi (set up with a substantial initial endowment from the Government of India) and the National Book Trust, India, a body fully financed by the Government of India but operating autonomously, have been able over the last twenty-five years to make attractive books available at non-commercial, fairly low prices, but distribution on an adequate scale is still a problem.

A word may also be added here about reading material for adult new readers which is required in large quantities if the gains of adult education and literacy campaigns are to be consolidated and if persons made literate are not to relapse into illiteracy for lack of suitable reading material. This material has usually to be made available at less than cost or even free of charge and the bulk of it has to be distributed through special governmental and voluntary agencies. This area of publishing, vitally important though it is, therefore falls outside the scope of conventional publishing, whether in the public or the private sector, and therefore outside the scope of this article.

It has been estimated that about a thousand government and public organizations supported by government grants undertake the publishing of books on varying scales. Government publishing in the pre-independence period has already been mentioned. This has expanded enormously since independence, particularly with the establishment of a number of national and state research institutions and the multiplication of universities from about a dozen to about ten dozen. But there has also been an additional, new form of government and semi-government publishing. This is represented by the Publications Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting which operates, to a substantial extent, very much as a commercial publisher does. Its publications do not necessarily emanate from government sources and do not necessarily express the views and judgements of the government of the day. Distribution is through normal trade channels and the Division's own wholesale-cum-retail outlets in major cities are run on conventional commercial lines.

The same applies to an even greater extent to the National Book Trust, mentioned earlier, as far as its publishing activities are concerned. These are substantial and multilingual, as are those of the Publications Division. In terms of volume of production and sales, the latter ranks among the largest publishing organizations in the country. The National Book Trust and the Publications Division are the only Indian publishers publishing in all the major Indian languages.

It might be of interest to mention that the publishers of this journal, the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, also issue a small, select list of books and have the distinction of publishing in foreign languages, in addition to English which, in India, can hardly be described as such.

India is, by any standard, a major publishing country. In terms of number of new titles and new editions of titles issued annually, it ranks among the world's first ten publishing countries. On the same basis, it ranks third, after the United States and Britain, in annual production of titles in English. However, when one considers the position in terms of India's population (a little less than 684 million according to the 1981 census), the multiplicity of even the major languages, the fact that forty per cent of the titles published in India are in English and can serve a maximum of only fifteen million Indians, and also that the number of each title printed (leaving text-books out of consideration) seldom exceeds 2,000 and is more often nearer 1,000, it becomes clear that Indian publishing, notwithstanding advances since independence, still has a long way to go.

Development of Indian publishing cannot, of course, proceed independently of India's total development—economic, social, political, cultural and educational. All the same, Indian publishers and all Indian governments so far have fully appreciated that advances in book publishing cannot passively wait for economic, educational and cultural progress, but must play an active role in promoting these. Books are potent tools for educational, cultural and economic development and are, hence, among the propellants of development even while a proliferation of books is also one of its fruits.

It was this realization that prompted Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, in 1958, to set up the National Book Trust (NBT), with the primary object of promoting book-mindedness in the country and making good books available at prices within the reach of the average Indian. In the Ministry of Education, a Book Promotion Division was set up to handle all matters

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connected with the book industry. The NBT is the major agency used by the Division for its book-promotion activities, which extend also to the promotion of Indian books abroad. While the Ministry of Education emphasizes the cultural and information aspects of Indian books abroad, the Books Panel of the Chemical and Allied Products Export Promotion Council, sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce, stresses the trade aspects. India's book exports have more than doubled in the course of the last ten years, from round about forty million rupees to an estimated hundred million rupees in 1981-82.

Like book industries in many countries, the Indian industry is currently facing a problem of rising costs of materials and services. The price of paper, its chief raw material, has quadrupled in the course of the last ten years and there have also been periods of severe shortage. Prices of Indian books have risen as a result, seriously limiting sales. Print-orders have had to be scaled down, which has led to still higher prices and, not seldom, abandonment of projects altogether. There was also a period of cut-back in grants to institutional libraries which caused difficulties, but the situation is now improving with the restoration of grants.

At a time when shortages were acute and prices high, the Government of India rendered timely aid to the textbook sector of the industry by directing paper manufacturers to devote thirty per cent of their capacity to the production of utility-quality paper which was made available for approved textbooks at a concessional price.

The industry has on previous occasions faced and overcome similar difficulties, even when it was much weaker financially and organizationally than it is today. While the present difficulties do cause anxiety, there has been no loss of nerve and Indian publishing faces the future with the confidence that if any country needs books on a massive scale, it is India. This need is being increasingly felt and must soon express itself in terms of demand, both from individual purchasers and from libraries. In a situation of steeply rising prices and limited purchasing power, much of the demand for reading material will have to be met by libraries and the expansion and adequate funding of the special and public library systems is being strongly urged by the publishing industry, as is also being done by educationists and librarians.

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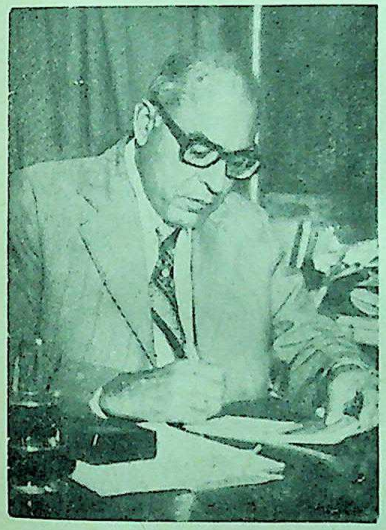
INDIAN PUBLISHING TODAY
Problems & prospects

O.P. Ghai*



A Brief Historical Background

Publishing arrived in India towards the close of the sixteenth century when Jesuit missionaries brought the printing press into the country. It was an adjunct to evangelism but soon the dynamic of communication took over, and the activity, in the 19th century began to encompass larger and secular areas. It received a two-fold impetus: (i) with the educational system becoming organized after the acceptance of Macaulay's report on education, books were needed for the new educational system and (ii) as the Indian renaissance gained roots, especially in Bengal, publishing began to assume its rightful role in the country's intellectual life. While educational publishing remained in the hands of British-owned subsidiaries of such companies like Macmillan, Longman and Oxford University Press, cultural publishing remained with men who were related to the national awakening.

Indian Publishing since Independence

Book publishing as organized activity is roughly coincidental with the Independence. There was of course the generativeness of the free state, the prolific political debate, the spillover from the media, and the emergence of an indigenous capitalism in publishing. Books were churned out in English, which stayed on as the unacknowledged lingua franca; and in the Indian languages as their literacy bases expanded. Soon Indian publishing began serving the needs of Indians settled abroad in large numbers, and even supplying text books to the countries of Asia and Africa, and academic books to libraries and research institutes all over the world.

Books Produced in India, Subjectwise: 1980

Category	*Number of titles*
Literature	4,278
Sociology, politics, economics, statistics	2,269
Law, education, insurance, social welfare, trade transport, communication	1,328
Philosophy, psychology, religion, theology	1,200
Engineering, technology, industries	1,182
Natural sciences, mathematics, medicine	940
History, geography, biography	854
Music, performing arts, cinema, games and sports	267
Language, linguistics, philosophy, ethnography, cultural anthropology	245
Agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, fisheries	
Management, administration	107
Others	235
Total	13,088

(*Source* : National Library, Calcutta, 1980).

India ranks seventh in the world, by the number of titles published annually, according to UNESCO

*Chairman, Sterling Publishers (P) Ltd, and Editor-in-Chief *Indian Book Industry*, New Delhi 110016.

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statistics. And even more significant is the fact that we occupy the third position in terms of the number of English titles published, after the USA and UK. This fact alone gives Indian publishing an enormous opportunity to contribute actively to the trans-national movement of ideas and information in the decades to come.

India's linguistic plurality has resulted in translation growing into a considerable discipline, with its own technology and expertise. As long as English remains a language of science, higher pedagogy, commerce and industry, and as these activities unite the diverse regions of the country, Indian books translated into English ensure the quickest and most efficient translingual dispersal.

Books Produced in India, Languagewise: 1979-80

Language	*Number of titles*
Assamese	142
Bengali	1,025
English	7,512
Gujarati	495
Hindi	2,191
Kannada	919
Malayalam	815
Marathi	1,058
Oriya	402
Punjabi	277
Sanskrit	70
Tamil	900
Telugu	388
Urdu	198
Other languages	74
Total	16,446

More important is the fact that English translations will provide a vital tie-up the Indian languages need with the world metropolis.

India has a comparative advantage over many other countries, both economically in terms of book production costs, and linguistically in terms of the widespread capacity to use English in the preparation, publication and dissemination of knowledge. Too often in the past the flow of ideas and information has been predominantly from other parts of the world, particularly Europe and North America to India and not from India to the rest of the world. Indian authors and publishers will have to take up the challenge of making it a two-way traffic.

Let us bear in mind that India's creativity is not confined to the past nor is it restricted to the philosophical, religious, literacy or artistic persuasions. India is contributing vitally to the more temporal persuasions, the developmental, sociological and scientific debates which move contemporary societies.

Therefore, it is imperative that more books, better books and low-priced books be published in abundance, as a national objective.

The Public and the Private Sectors

Ours is a mixed economy, which is as much reflected in book publishing as in other sectors. The publications brought out by the state sector include not only parliamentary reports, policy documents of the Government of India, etc., but also school text-books, children's literature, biographies and works of cultural and aesthetic significance. Often these are subsidized by the state. Publication of school texts by government agencies is now an accepted fact in the country. In some cases even the distribution is undertaken by the state. This denies the private publishers the most lucrative branch of publishing.

The state's entry into publishing of textbooks has not produced ideal results. Mr. Narendra Kumar, President, Federation of Indian Publishers rightly says:

> The textbooks being used today, produced under a State monopoly, show a total disregard for quality, either, in content or presentation, a similar disregard for revision and updating, a lack of care in the commissioning and screening of authors; and no concern for regional and ethnic variations in requirements. Indeed, these shoddy texts, far from being a help, are a deterrent to learning, and since sales are guaranteed and there is no competition, the dismal situation continues. In fields where private publishers have been allowed to operate in publishing college-level texts, for instance, they have shown that they are capable of responsible and serious publishing. There is no reason to believe that this cannot be so in the case of school textbooks also. It should be possible for the government to monitor private textbook publishing with a view to quality, and for the NCERT to set guidelines for publishers to follow."

Healthy competition improves the quality of products. Nationalization, on the other hand, tends to replace a large number of texts by a single one; a diversity of views, approaches and solutions by set formulae; and variety in presentation by a repetition that numbs the senses. At the simplest level, this means that where there should be a range and wealth of authors, there are only a handful; where there should be a multiplicity of choice, there is only the lowest common denominator; and where there should be a steady and strong infusion of ideas, there is often only a tired retelling of facts. Where is the room for experimentation in such a system? And where is the impetus?"

We feel that the Government should involve private publishers in the production of school textbooks. It will ensure better cash flow and the publishers will be able to bring out other varieties of much needed literature.

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There are some private publishers already engaged in producing school textbooks. They publish mostly for elitist private schools in metropolitan centres. Besides textbooks, they successfully market supplementary reading material which the state does not provide.

Scholarly publishing, however, is by and large in the hands of private publishers. Such work is normally done by university presses in other countries. Not only are the sales of these academic titles very slow but the payments are blocked generally for a long time.

Various literary academies supported by the state governments publish outstanding works of literature. This genre of publishing, however, seldom involves a realistic awareness of economic factors.

Prominent Publishing Houses in India

There are over 12,000 publishing houses in the country, big and small including author-publishers. Of these a few hundred can be described as really active with publications in English or in the vernacular. Publishing in English is concentrated in Delhi, though there are a few publishers in Bombay, Culcutta and Madras. Language publishers function from their own states. The larger of the publishing houses concentrating on titles in English are:

Vikas Publishing House (P) Ltd.
Sterling Publishers (P) Ltd.
Hind Pocket Books (P) Ltd.
Abhinav Publications
Popular Prakashan (P) Ltd.
Allied Publishers (P) Ltd.
Rajpal & Sons (Hindi)
Rajkamal Prakashan (P) Ltd. (Hindi)
Radhakrishna Prakashan (Hindi)
Oxford University Press
Macmillan India Ltd.
Prentice-Hall of India (P) Ltd.
Wiley Eastern Ltd.
Tata McGraw-Hill Publishing Co. Ltd.
Jaico Publishing House
India Book House
Orient Longman Ltd.
S. Chand & Co. Ltd.

Almost all of these and many others which are not listed here have been contributing to the development of the Indian Publishing Industry. Vikas for example is blazing a trail with its imaginative policy and has expanded into areas of export in a big way. S. Chand is the biggest textbook publishers in the country and Sterling is well known for its scholarly titles the world over. Hind Pocket Books pioneered paperback publishing in India. Publishing companies which have British or American parent concerns and have been mainly issuing reprints of western textbooks have now started building original lists consisting purely of Indian writers.

In spite of this growth and expansion Indian book publishing is in a rather troubled state as the publishers are faced with high prices of paper, lack of finance, absence of a strong library movement, an unimaginative book import policy and high postal rates for the carriage of books to transport them to the individual book buyers in the vast rural areas—among many other problems that tend to retard the progress of this vital industry.

Cooperation with Socialist Countries

Ever since the beginning of the Moscow International Book Fair, there has been a notable increase in participation by Indian Publishers. This cultural link has resulted in a number of Russian books being translated into English and quite a few Indian languages. A few Indian books have also been translated into Russian languages. However, there is a much larger potential in this area of exchange, yet to be realized. I am sure that in the years to come the cooperation between publishers in India and the socialist countries will further increase. This bond will certainly have much to contribute to international understanding and world peace.

Book Exports

Books published in India are being exported to almost all countries. But India's share of the world market is negligible, despite the fact that in terms of English language publishing India ranks the third in the world. Of the total exports, the volume is largely made up of exports to the English-speaking countries.

Traditionally over 50 per cent of India's book exports went to the USA and Britain (consisting largely of Indology and Orientalia), and most of the rest went to countries with large Indian immigrant populations. This pattern is now undergoing a rapid change. The US and the UK together account for only 35 per cent of our exports, while new markets in Singapore, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, the Middle East and Africa are fast assuming major importance. Altogether, Indian books are now being exported to over 80 countries.

Explaining this phenomenon, Asang Machwe, Director of Wiley Eastern says, "College level Indian textbooks have a great cost advantage over their foreign competitors; they are priced at only a quarter of their American or British counterparts; and their intellectual level and the background that is assumed are much more appropriate to conditions in Third World countries."

This fact is corroborated by Narendra Kumar, Managing Director of Vikas Publishing House. He says, "All English-speaking countries that were once part of the British Empire have so far been monopolised by the British publishers. 16 out of 36 African countrie do not have a printing press,

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and are totally dependent on imports. Now that educational publishing in India has come of age, Indian textbooks are in a strong position to take over from British ones, both because they are cheaper and more suited to local conditions."

The Government of India provides some support for the export of books. The publication Panel of the Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL) coordinates promotion and resolves problems faced by book exporters. In addition, the National Book Trust participates in Book Exhibitions and Fairs abroad and the Government gives travel subsidy for export promotion. But all this is nothing as compared to the massive support given by American, British and Soviet Governments to the publishers of their countries. We need some machinery like the British Council which is regularly and scientifically promoting British Books all over the world.

Book Exports from India, countrywise: 1979-80

Countries		*Value Rs.*
UK		61,75,000
USA		48,50,000
Australia, Canada, New Zealand		26,61,000
Middle-East		
UAE	16,52,000	
Saudi Arabia	14,27,000	
Yemen	14,63,000	
Others	32,86,000	78,28,000
Asia		
Bangladesh	64,75,000	
Singapore	26,16,000	
Malaysia	21,23,000	
Nepal	21,97,000	
Sri Lanka	15,07,000	
Others	30,22,000	1,79,40,000
Europe		
Germany	13,88,000	
Netherlands	7,43,000	
Others	7,59,000	28,90,000
Africa		
Kenya	11,38,000	
Tanzania	4,74,000	
Others	8,96,000	25,08,000
Other countries		5,22,000
	Total	4,53,74,000

(Source: *Business India*, March 1982).

The Indian Publishers have the capability and the technical know-how to make a dent in book exports. They have already increased their exports from Rs. 6 crores in 1979-80 to Rs. 8 crores in 1980-81.

Given suitable encouragement with incentives, simple procedures, visits of prominent publishers and cooperation from our missions abroad, Indian books could gain an important position the world over especially in the Asian and African countries.

The Federation of Indian Publishers

I will conclude the article with a note on the Federation of Indian Publishers which is the representative body of Publishers in English, Hindi and other languages with its membership from all over India. All the leading publishers of the country are its direct members; other publishers being represented through various local associations and the Federation's regional offices at Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Bangalore.

The Federation is a registered society. Its present membership is over 400 including several regional associations like Tamilnadu Publishers Association, Kerala Publishers Association and Karnataka Publishers Association.

The main objective of the Federation is to promote professional standards among members and provide a forum for publishers to discuss their problems at the national and international levels.

The Federation is affiliated to International Publishers Association It also functions as the Regional Office of the International Publishers Association for South Asia.

The Federation has been organising training courses and seminars from time to time on different aspects of publishing and allied issues. In some of its training courses, countries like Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka also have participated. In February '79, it organised a workshop on Book Publishing. An International Seminar on Distribution and Marketing of Books was held in 1980, and a Training course in copyright in March 1981.

The Federation has instituted annual awards for Excellence in Book Production.

Lately the Federation has become very active in the International field. Three independent delegations, without any Government assistance, went to USSR, China and UK. With their Soviet counterparts they have formed a Working Group, the meetings of which will alternately be held in USSR and India. The aim of the Working Group is to enlarge the areas of cooperation by holding joint Seminars, organising book exhibitions, exchanging publishing experts and also by exchanging bibliographic information on books published in India and USSR.

The Federation is now housed in its own building, the Federation House, at 18 1/C Institutional Area (Near JNU) New Delhi-110067.

Indian publishing forges ahead!

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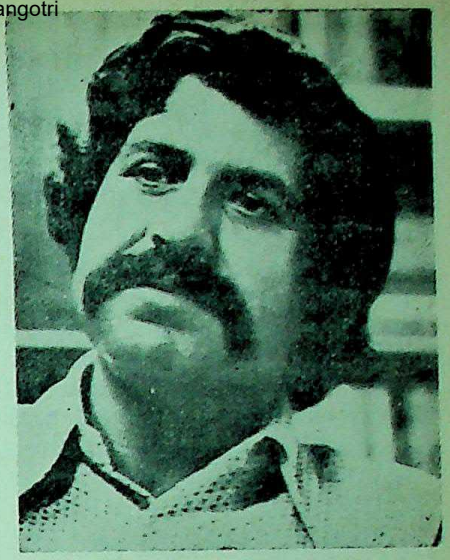
Challenges Ahead in Publishing Industry in the Eighties



An exclusive interview by Prof. Raj K. Nayar with

NARENDRA KUMAR*

"It is an established fact that publishing has not been successful in any country of the world, unless the Government takes positive measures to support it. The stronghold of publishing in the West is a case in point. In the Indian context also, publishing should be treated on a priority basis, as it has a key role to play in India's national development," thus observed Narendra Kumar, doyen of the Indian publishing business.

Inhibiting Factors in Publishing Industry

Elaborating, with regard to the major inhibiting factors, in the post-independence years that were responsible for sluggish growth of the publishing industry, the President of FIP remarked: "there are several inhibiting factors that come in the way of a flourishing publishing industry in India. Indian publishing was the by-product of national upsurge in various walks of life, and there are still no more than a score of Indian publishers, who have made the mark. These may be termed the elite of Indian publishing, and the gap between the elite and the other publishers who constitute the base of publishing in India is widening; no system that has a prosperous superstructure, but a weak base can survive for long."

Problem of Restructuring for School Textbooks Business

In this context, with a view to broadening the base of the national publishing industry, the President of FIP underscored: "contradiction that hurts the Indian publishers considerably, is the role played by the State Corporate Sector. Although it performs a useful social function by bringing out publications with a limited sale potential, the same job could perhaps be done more effectively through state subsidies, without the paraphernalia of State Publishing Houses. In school-level textbook publishing, the State holds a monopoly; since 70 per cent of publishing in India is accounted for by "Programmed Books" and considering the fact that there are nearly 9 crore students studying in schools in the country, State agencies have hardly begun to be effective.

Indeed School Texts are the most profitable arm of publishing in the country, and Indian publishing needs to be built upon its sound foundation through an ideal combination of direct State publishing, private publishing and joint marketing by private and public sectors. The Vikas Chief deprecated the distinction between the public and private sectors and the role played by each in the publication and distribution of books. He conceded: "It is an established fact that publishing has not been successful in any country of the world, unless the Government takes positive measures to support it. However, educational publishing is wholly state-controlled in India."

Role of Textbooks in Publishing Industry

In this context, the Vikas Chief drew attention of all concerned that it was high time to implement the Dastur Survey Report (based on the Education Commission's Report, 1966) and stressed: "We are producing from the first year of the Eighties, 636 million copies of textbooks. If we accept the ratio of textbooks to total production as 70 per cent to be correct, we are, in 1981-82, producing nearly 1,000 million copies of texts." In this backdrop the Vikas Chief underscored: "In financial terms, this is a Rs. 100 crore per year business, and constitutes the rolling finance of the trade. Money generated from textbooks publishing if used to finance creative and non-academic writing, and because the sale is assured and renewed each year, it makes

* Mr Narendra Kumar, Managing Director of Vikas Publishing House (P) Ltd. and Immediate Past President of Federation of Indian Publishers.

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for a stability that encourages sustained publishing endeavour and has historically been responsible for much great publishing in the world. In India, this lucrative market is almost wholly state-controlled." There is a monopoly situation that guarantee sales, however unwholesome the product, simply because there is no competition and no choice.

The role that State Agencies have to play, is at the infrastructural level, the policy-making and review level, at redefining curriculum requirements, ultimate objectives, and alternative strategies. The actual production, promotion and distribution of material should be assigned to the private sector. A realistic separation of function will go in a long way towards an effective and meaningful publishing endeavour.

Liberalisation of Library Grants

According to appraisal of the President FIP: "Another major hurdle which stands in the way of rapid growth of the publishing industry, is the stringent policy pursued by the Government during the Sixth Five Year Plan period (1980-85), in curtailing purchasing grants of college and university libraries under the Plan Budget. Considering the fact that purchases by academic libraries constitute the bread and butter of booksellers and publishers in India, the severe cuts in their book budgets have resulted in irreparable damage to the most dynamic sector of the Indian publishing.

Setting up of Book Finance Corporation

In this disturbing scenario, with a view to fight out the current financial recessionary tendencies as well as normal developmental needs of the expanding books industry, the Vikas Chief remarked: "Currently, the Book Finance Corporation, is the only answer to the problems besieging this vital sector of growth and development. In addition to this more and more libraries need to be opened in every nook and corner of the country—be it big cities, towns, villages or 'kasbas' (small towns).

Higher Priority to Publishing Industry and Recessionary Tendencies, etc.

In reply to the proposal for according higher priority to the book industry, so that it could be given all possible incentives and facilities in form of inputs, e.g., supply of papers on concessional rates, requisite finance for setting up printing presses, the Vikas Chief in emphatic tone again remarked: "The post-independence publishing industry in India was, barring one or two cases, an emaciated, languishing industry with most of the new entrants producing offset re-prints of old out-of-print books. Even till this day, generally, Indian publishing lacks the vigour and strength of a thriving industry." As regards the causes of current recessionary tendencies in the publication business and likely impact of the restoration of much delayed Government grants to libraries, the Vikas Chief in emphatic tone reiterated: "Restoration of library grants will certainly give a fresh impetus to the publishing industry." But, besides the same, the situation called for a multi-pronged attack. In particular, special efforts were called for to ensure that paper which was the basic raw material used for printing books was easily available at concessional prices, by declaring publishing as "priority industry."

Revival of National Book Development Board

In reply to the proposal for revival of the National Book Development Board having representatives of various Ministries of the Government Publishers, Authors, Finance and Libraries which amongst other things may ensure the rightful role for spreading 'Book Culture', the Vikas Chief welcomed the proposal in respect of the revival of the National Book Development Board at this juncture.

Uncalled for Hike in Postal Rates

By way of protest against inopportune hike in postal rates in the Union Budget 1982-83, the Vikas Chief stressed: "the concessional postal rates applicable for newspapers and magazines may hold good for books as well at least."

Marketing Strategies for Publications in the Eighties

In reply to the pointed question for adoption of pragmatic strategies in marketing for popularising Indian publication in India and abroad, the Vikas Chief remarked: "Since publishing in India centres mainly around library books, there is a limited scope for change in the existing pattern, except that more regular and scientific ways of library supplies and recovery of payments ought to be devised. However, the marketing of paperbacks, educational books (students' editions) and children's books can be considerably improved by adopting more aggressive ways of selling by inculcating book-mindedness among children and adults; opening of libraries in all parts of cities, small towns and villages subsidising the cost of printing paper; and rationalization of imports of publications from abroad, are some of the many concrete steps which ought to be taken to improve the stature of Indian publishing."

Export of Publications

In emphatic tone the Vikas Chief remarked: "There is an unlimited potential for export of Indian books world over and Government should give maximum facilities to those who venture in this highly competitive field. According to his assessment, if the UK could have Rs. 600 crore Exports Publication business, India could do so likewise.

As regards the expansion of export of publications to Pakistan, the Vikas Chief was somewhat diffident: "This is directly related to the diplomatic equation between the two countries. Normalisation of book trade between India and Pakistan cannot take place in isolation; it has to be treated as part of a total relationship between two neighbouring countries that have so much in common."

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ROMAN BASU—A Profile

First President of the UN Society of Writers

by

Isabelle Burns

Romen Basu is from India. He was educated in Calcutta, England and the United States. His wife Rasil is involved in the forthcoming UN Conference on Palestine. He has two daughters—both UNIS graduates one a professor of political science and the other an assistant editor with a daily newspaper

Asked why he began to write fiction, he replied that at first he thought he did not have much talent but that a writer friend gave him some valuable advice: "Just sit down and start writing." After talking with two more friends who were giving up their jobs to become full-time writers, he decided to try writing in his spare time. Now, eight books later, he has used that time very productively. This is all the more to his credit since he is a very busy man.

Romen Basu joined the UN in its Lake Success days 35 years ago, started with ECOSOC and has been on five UN missions in various parts of the world and is now Chief of the Office of the Under-Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General for DTCD. He is always at his desk by 8 a.m.!

What is the secret of his literary productivity? Romen Basu gets up at 5 a.m. and writes before coming to work. And, he says, "I never write at a desk-always on a drawing-board on my lap, in trains, planes, subways and buses". The drawing-board method has resulted in two collections of short stories and six novels (aspiring writers take note).

What kind of books does he write? Basically, they are love stories, with a cross-cultural background inspired by his strong feeling of internationalism and various locales drawn from his travels to London, Paris, India, Rome. The theme of each story revolves around the cultural differences of the two main characters, and Romen Basu tries to probe into the ways in which his characters' differences are resolved, happily or unhappily.

Asked about writers who had influenced him or whom he enjoyed, his tastes proved eclectic. He cited various authors, among them Russians, Japanese, British and Americans. Of the Indian writers, Mr Basu mentioned Mulkraj Anand, who wrote about the untouchables—titled *Chandal*—which will soon be published.

What further stories are in the works ? Romen Basu says he is planning a fictional story about the UN—tentatively titled *The Sands of Time*—to be published after his retirement. Asked if the book would be critical of the UN, he chuckled and replied that no, it would rather be rebuttal of Shirley Hazzard's views on the subject: he added that "after all, the UN is my life". Mr Basu credited Robert Muller. the UN "scholar-in-residence", with asking him to write *The Sands of Time*, which he did with some apprehension about taking on "the serious subject of the United Nations". However, he wants "to preserve a memory of the early days of the UN, so that they will not be forgotten along with their dedication and commitment".

It is unlikely that Romen Basu's own works will be forgotten. They have appeared in two anthologies of English-Indian literature, and a professor in India is currently engaged in a study of his works His books have also been reviewed in the *Secretariat News* (see 30 September 1982 issue).

Mr Basu has always been a staff activist. He is a former Presiding Officer of the Staff Council and was Secretary of the Board of UNIS for over 10 years; he was also involved in the Credit Union and Appointment and Promotion Committees. With so many activities, why did he take on the job of first President of the new UN Society of Writers? He hopes to accomplish two goals through the Society, which has already attracted more than forty members since its inception a month ago. As historians of the UN, he hoped that society members would write about the hopes, goals and frustrations of the UN in a more authentic manner than outsiders, and hopes that some day every school in every country will make a course on the UN compulsory for its students.

"We want to provide an intellectual stimulus. We want to have seminars which will be open to everyone at the UN and to invite critics and publishers to speak. Members would read each other's manuscripts and offer suggestions and try to help one another to publish." He hoped that more staff members would participate and said that writings would not be limited to English; the Society hoped to have members writing in as many languages as possible.

As its first President, Romen Basu said he intends to give the UN Society of Writers "my entire attention." With such a driving force behind it, the Society should be a resounding success.

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Status of Piracy in the World: A Country Report of Pakistan

M. H. Mirza*

World Intellectual Property Organisation, a United Nations Agency deserves rich compliments for the excellent work done in the field of Copyright and Organizing a Forum 'On Book Piracy'. It is gratifying to note that the purpose of the Forum is to inform governments, the public at large and the people in the book trade about the damage caused to publishing trade in the world due to book piracy and stress ways and means of combating book piracy more efficiently.

Copyright laws in Pakistan are governed by Copyright Ordinance 1962. This came into force in 1967. Prior to 1967 Indian Copyright Act 1914 as modified was operative. Indian Copyright Act of 1914 is a modified form of the British Copyright Act of 1911 which was operative throughout the British Commonwealth.

The Copyright Ordinance 1962 provides a machinery to operate and administrate its provision. The Office of Registrar of Copyright was established at Karachi. This Ordinance also provided for a Copyright Board consisting of a Chairman and 5 members. This Board acts as an appellate authority against the decisions and orders of the Registrar. Copyright Board is deemed to be a Court for the purpose of Section 480 and 482 of Pakistan Code of Criminal procedure and Pakistan Penal Code under Section 193 and 228.

Infringements of Copyright

(a) Copyright in a work shall be deemed to be infringed when a person without the consent of the owner of the Copyright or without a licence granted by such owner or the Registrar under the provisions of the Ordinance does anything for which the law confers the sole right on the owner of the Copyright, or

(b) makes for sale or hire, sells or lets for hire, or by way of trade displays or offers for sale or hire, or distributes for the purpose of trade; or

(d) exhibits in public by way of trade; or

(e) imports into Pakistan any infringing copies of the work.

Civil Remedies

Where Copyright in any work has been infringed the party aggrieved is entitled to all such remedies, by way of injunction, damages, accounts and otherwise as are available for the infringement of Copyright shall be instituted and tried in the court of the Civil Judge. However, where all the parties to a suit or other proceeding agree in writing to refer the matter to the decision of the Copyright Board, then no court or other tribunal shall hear, try or entertain such suit or proceeding.

Penal Offences

Infringement of Copyright has also been declared as a penal offence under section 66 of the Ordinance. Any person who knowingly infringes or abets the infringement of:

(a) The Copyright in a work; or

(b) any other conferred by the Ordinance shall be liable with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees or with imprisonment which may extend to two years or with both fine and

* Convenor, Import Group of Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Association, Lahore. Foreign Member National Association of College Stores, Oberlin, USA. American Booksellers Association, New York, U.S.A. Booksellers Association of Great Britain and Ireland, London, England.

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imprisonment. Infringement of Copyright, however, is not a cognizable offence. The injured person is, therefore, required to lodge a complaint with the Magistrate of First Class, who will try any offence under the Ordinance after taking due cognizance.

International Copyright

Pakistan is a member of the Berne Convention on Copyright as well as the Universal Copyright Convention. And in order to discharge the obligations, arising from the above two conventions to which Pakistan is a party, regarding giving of national treatment to foreign works, the scope of protection available to Pakistani works has been extended to works originating in the contracting States of the Berne Convention as well as the Universal Copyright Convention by virtue of an International Copyright Order 1968 subject to certain conditions and limitations.

International Copyright Order under (Section 54 of Copyright Ordinance 1962) was proclaimed on 13th March 1968.

Copyright Ordinance 1962 was amended by Act No. 11 of 1973. Following new Sub-Section was added in Section 10 after Sub-Section (2).

2A Copyright shall not subsist in any work referred to in Sub-Section (2) as respects its reprint, translation, adaptation or publication, by or under the authority of the Federal Government as textbook for the purposes of teaching, study or research in educational institutions.

With the expansion in education the demand for textbooks, which were mostly of foreign Author/Publisher increased considerably. Due to shortage of foreign exchange the imports were limited. There thus existed conditions which could be referred as 'Book Famine'. The price of books were beyond the purchasing power of a student. To meet the shortage, a US Aid Mission headed by Mr J.H. Koyle proposed a programme of local editions of textbooks—reprint and translations or adaptations. Due to separation of East Pakistan, deterioration of U.S.,-Pakistan relations, this programme could not be implemented.

National Book Foundation was set up to reprint and translate Foreign publications. The purpose in making 1973 amendment in Copyright Ordinance 1962 was to meet the shortage of textbooks. Permission through Franklin Publication was obtained to reprint American textbooks. Many of the books selected were either old or obsolete editions. National Book Foundation also entered import business and imported textbooks to meet the textbooks need. These imported books were sold at subsidized prices to institutions and students.

Book importers could not compete with them as they had no funds to subsidize their book import to offer books at the prices of National Book Foundation.

Private sector (Book Importers) had a severe setback. They were reluctant to import essential textbooks in reasonable quantity to meet local requirements and shortage of textbooks commenced. With the passage of time this problem became more acute. This situation encouraged the small publisher to enter this business which has now become a lucrative business.

There was severe shortage of Doctors (Physicians) in Pakistan. The Government in the early 70s established a number of new Medical Colleges. The number of students in 1970 was less than 700; within next 5-6 years their number increased to over 3,000 and is now about 5,000. Most of the essential Medical textbooks specially E.L.B.S. edition were not available in time. This encouraged smaller publishers/printers to become pirate. As there was severe shortage of original editors, they sold their stock like hot cakes. This gave them all encouragement to expand their business. Piracy had a phenomenal expansion from 1976 to 1982, because foreign publishers were reluctant to give rights to local publishers.

Medical books were followed by engineering books/social books/ Paperbacks, Fiction and bestsellers. Usually copies of such titles to be pirated are procured by air. Pirated editions are thus available before the arrival of original editions.

Supplies of foreign editions usually become available within 3-4 months after the publication of the original edition. Most of the standard books are reprinted in E.L.B.S. or Asia edition which usually takes 4-8 months after publication of original, whereas pirated editions are available in the market within 1-2 months. They pirate, then sell their pirated edition before arrival of low priced foreign edition. There is competition amongst pirates. Bailey and Love's *Short Practice of Surgery*, 18th edition was published in early 1981 and E.L.B.S. edition was published in November 1981. Pirated edition became available in October 1981 and currently 7 pirated editions of this textbook are in market. They are selling @ = 3.50 = 5.00 (against E.L.B.S. edition of = 14.50 — or $\frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{3}$ price of E.L.B.S. edition). Two of the pirated editions resemble imported E.L.B.S. edition. They are thus underquoting to dispose off their own pirated edition. Foreign pirated editions have been

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imported usually from Singapore. Their quantum is not fully verifiable.

Piracy of foreign books has also encouraged local piracy. It is mostly confined to textbooks and worst sufferers are textbook Boards and National Book Foundation. It is also spreading to other fields like popular bestsellers, general fiction and religious books.

Publishers' Activities

Pakistan, unfortunately has been a negleted market by foreign publishers. This attitude of negligence, ignorance has created problems which they are now experiencing. Pakistan's population is 80 million compared to 680 million of India. However, the market for imported books is one-third to half the size of Indian import i.e., 3-4 times per capita bigger than India. Main centres of business in Pakistan are fewer and it is more convenient to cover them and serve that market. These publishers who know this, visit Pakistan market very often and get rich dividend.

McGraw Hill a leading American Educational publisher has fought piracy with partial success. They have issued Asian edition of their standard textbooks keeping the prices at half to one-third of the Asia Reprint editions. Their way to fight piracy is to reduce prices and compete with them. Oxford have followed the same principle.

Local Developments

During the 1981 election of Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Association, a group of pirates took the control of Karachi zone. This created a bad image for the country, thus creating an impression that whole booktrade is pirated. At the Piracy Seminar held at the 5th World Book Fair, New Delhi February 1982—pirate role in Pakistan was exposed in detail. However in private discussion, Chairman, Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Association and other leading importer members explained the factual position and assured the world community of fullest cooperation to combat piracy. The efforts to rehabilitate the country's image and fight piracy were commenced. I.P.A. leaflet was prominently displayed at all bookshops. A piracy subcommittee of Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Association was set up at Lahore. The Committee unanimously resolved that piracy of books be discouraged by taking the following measures:

(a) Those desirous to reprint should do so after obtaining rights from original publishers. In case of refusal, they should refer to Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Association who will approach the foreign publishers, if so desired.

(b) Members of the Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Association should not stock pirated editions.

(c) Members of the Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Association should not supply pirated editions to Libraries.

(d) Information about pirated editions, their sale and display be conveyed to the Association for necessary action against the pirate.

(e) Members of the Association violating this resolution will be disqualified and information regarding piracy committed by any such member will be communicated to the concerned government and original publisher abroad.

(f) Foreign publishers be requested not to supply books to the pirates.

(g) Government be requested to amend the Copyright Ordinance/W.P. Publication Ordinance. Penal clauses of both the Acts be implemented strictly through the process of law.

(h) Members of the Association should not deal with the member so disqualified by the Association. Comptroller of Imports and Exports, Government of Pakistan, be requested to cancel registration of import and export of such pirated edition.

(i) This may be circulated and signed by all the members of the Association and displayed at the Association office.

(j) Members of Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Association will not deal with publishers who are supplying books to the pirates.

It will not be out of place to mention that supply of books to libraries is governed by agreement jointly drafted by Pakistan Library Association and Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Association and confirmed by Director of Libraries, Government of Pakistan, Islamabad. From the current year, a new sub-clause has been added, which reads as follows: "*It is further certified that the publications listed in the bill are original/ authorised edition/reprint and not pirated ones.*" Libraries are the major buyer of books (which varies from 40 per cent—75 per cent of total output). Thus, major source of selling pirated editions has been plugged.

Pakistan Academy of Letters has been working on a new Copyright Act and wrote to Pakistan Publishers and Booksellers Associa-

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tion for their views and comments which have been submitted to them. The government of Pakistan has been requested to incorporate Press and Publication Ordinance Penal clauses in the new Copyright Act. Imprisonment and fine limits be enhanced. Recent visitors from abroad confirm that forces to fight piracy are gaining momentum. Signs of improvement are visible and with joint efforts, awareness on government part, we hope to fight and eliminate piracy. Piracy presents a challenge to developing and developed countries. Currently International Publishers Association, Geneva, S.T.M. Group, Amsterdam, Book Development Council, London, Association of American Publishers, New York, Unesco, Paris are fighting it. There is no coordination amongst them, closer cooperation should be developed amongst them to fight piracy. They should come forward to help publishers and dealers who are willing to fight piracy by extending a helping hand.

Pakistan is the 7th largest populated country in the world. It is a growing market for textbooks and needs viable local reprinting programme. Sixth 5-year-plan which lays greater stress on education commences on 1st July 1983. There will be greater need for textbooks. Foreign publishers should take more interest in this market and come forward to start local reprinting programme in Pakistan, which will help to combat piracy. B.D.C. has recently assured Pakistan trade of full support and hope that other developed nations will extend helping hand to fight piracy. □□□

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Book Publishing in Australia

Jenny Curtis

Australians spend about Rs. 477 crores on books each year. This sum was the estimated total value of the Australian book trade at retail level in 1981. The figure accounts for both Australian and imported titles.

In a population of only 1.5 crores, there therefore is an average expenditure on books of over Rs. 310 a head annually, making Australia one of the highest per capita book buying communities in the world.

In the last 20 years there has been a massive growth in sales of Australian-originated books. Australian Book Publishers Association (ABPA) figures show that in 1960 total sales of Australian books amounted to about Rs. 1.7 crores, rising to Rs. 12.2 crores in 1970 and dramatically to Rs. 215 crores in 1980. Even allowing for the rate of inflation, this is an impressive increase and indicates not only a great increase in book sales generally but that the market share held by books of Australian origin has risen very significantly. The trend reflects the great upsurge of Australian confidence and optimism which accompanied economic growth and population expansion in the period of the 1960s and 1970s.

But the big boom of Australian publishing in the 1970s has flattened out and in 1981 sales struggled to keep pace with inflation. Figures are not yet available for 1982 but nobody expects a dramatic improvement on 1981. The best that publishers can hope for is to keep an edge on inflation.

The industry has already shown considerable resilience as vigour is retained and cautious optimism evinced, even in the face of recession. Australians, for all the talk of belt-tightening, are still happily spending their dollar on books.

Size of the industry

It is estimated that the Australian book publishing industry consists of about 200 firms which engage in publishing books as a continuing activity.

The industry is characterised by a large number of relatively small firms. Only about 20 per cent have turnovers exceeding Rs. 1.7 crores; the majority of firms have turnovers of less than Rs. 9 lacs. The largest publishers/distributor in Australia had a turnover of less than Rs. 2.14 crores in 1981.

Ownership

Although the small Australian firm may be typical, amongst the biggest book publishing companies with a turnover of over Rs. 8.6 crores, there are at least three which are Australian-owned.

Other large companies have either US or UK-based parents. In 1982 the Australian Book Publishers Association membership of 151 firms (which accounts for about 85 per cent of the industry) broke down into 108 Australian-owned 24 UK-owned, 16 US-owned and one French, one Dutch and one New Zealand-owned.

Some of these overseas companies, like the UK giant William Collins, are comparatively very large. It is significant though, that most of the large UK and US firms operating in Australia publishs a substantial number of new books as well as distribute the books of their parent company.

Market Share by Ownership

A breakdown of sales by nationality of ownership given in ABPA statistics for 1981 shows that Australian-owned companies have 27.1 per cent share of the total market, while US firms have 32.7 per cent and UK firms 39.5 per cent.

A further analysis of these 1981 figures reveals that Australian published books are very significantly represented in a 42 per cent share of the market.

Publishing Categories

In the 1980s economic climate, overall title output appears to have dropped. It is in the general book category (as opposed to educational) that the number of new titles seem to have fallen. In the realm of educational publishing moderate growth in title output continues, somewhat surprisingly considering the decline of real value of education spending by govern-

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ment over the last 2 or 3 years. Possibly the moderating effect of the new Copyright law regarding photocopying by schools is reflected in an increased demand for books by schools.

Educational publishing in Australia is in no way the preserve of educational authorities. Commercial publishers work in close association with educationists to produce books which are relevant, attractive and sound in educational thought and practice. The growth of a successful educational publishing industry has been an important stimulus to Australian publishing. It has provided a sound economic basis upon which to develop general publishing, and thus has enabled a healthy diversification which has proved to be the industry's strength.

Educational publishing currently accounts for about 42 per cent of the Australian market (both local and imported titles), and Australian-originated titles account for 38 per cent of educational book sales.

The general book category is left with about 58 per cent of the market and 31 per cent of general books sales are Australian titles.

Government Policies

The Australian book industry, relative to other Australian industry, is a small one. Its cultural and educational importance notwithstanding, Australian publishing receives few inducements from government.

In a vast country, almost twice the size of India, distribution presents a major problem. Although it is often observed that Australia's highly urbanised population is largely concentrated on the eastern and southern sea board, Australia's 1.5 crores potential book buyers are spread over huge areas, thus making for very high distribution costs.

But there has been little assistance from government. There is now no concessional book post, which could assist very significantly with distribution costs.

Nor, does the government assist by making tax concessions for the industry. There is no particular help with credit; no assistance in relation to paper costs.

The Federal Government Book Bounty scheme provides indirect assistance to publishers. Since 1969 the Book Bounty has been paid to Australian printers to enable them to compete with off-shore printers, chiefly those of SE Asia. Increasingly, Australian publishers find it more economical to print in Asia, but many would prefer to keep their work in Australia, for reason ranging from nationalism to quality control and timing.

Yet the Book Bounty is currently being run down, the rebateable percentage of costs progressively reduced, and the scheme due to terminate in January 1984. Publishers support Australian printers in their lobby to obtain a reversal of this decision, and no doubt efforts will be renewed in view of the recent change of Fedral Government.

Literature Board Grants

The only direct assistance by government to book publishers in Australia are the grants made by the Literature Board of the Australia Council. Each year the Board makes grants totalling about Rs. 17 lacs to individual publishing firms to finance publication of 80-90 books a year, which would not otherwise have been viable publishing projects. The grants are made in the areas of poetry, drama, serious fiction and non-fiction Though small, these grats perform, a very important function and have been a key factor in the renewed vigour of Australian creative writing.

Export Marketing

While publishing receives no special consideration in the area of export marketing, publishers have profited from Australian Government assistance to industry to develop overseas markets. With such a small local market, the development of export markets for publishing can lead to increased print runs and real economies of scale.

Export of Australian books have risen sharply in recent years, from about Rs. 3 crores in 1973 to over Rs. 14.7 crores in 1980.

Government support under the Export Development Grants scheme has been a significant factor in this development, enabling publishers to participate in international book fairs. Australian participation in the Frankfruit Fair over the last 22 years and at the Bologna Children's Book Fair over many years has largely been made possible by government assistance, and has been a significant factor contributing to the international esteem which the Australian industry now enjoys. The policies of support to Australian industries in pertox marketing has been, however, the subject of government review, and was in some jeopardy under the out-going Liberal Government. Perhaps publishers can now be more optimistic on this score with a new Labour Government in office, which last year whilst in opposition undertook to foster a strong Australian publishing industry.

Sales Tax

Books are free from sales tax in Australia, but this freedom looked precarious when in 1981 the then Government in a bid to broaden the tax base, introduced legislation to levy a 2½ per cent sales tax on several consumer items including

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books. The compound effect of the tax and its implementation could have proved disastrous to the book industry and certainly would have sent prices rocketing well beyond 2½ per cent. Community and industry pressure was brought to bear and the legislation was defeated in the Upper House and shelved indefinitely. This bill, incidentally, became one of the grounds which made possible the recent calling of a double dissolution of Parliament and an early election by the then Prime Minister, Mr. Fraser which resulted in a change of government in March this year. Australia's new Government is pledged against sales tax on "essentials of life", amongst which books, newspapers and magazines are counted.

Educational Funding

Funding for student text book purchases at all levels of education is an area of serious concern to the community and book industry alike. Government funds for these essential tools of learning have fallen off seriously in real terms in the past three years as education ceases to be a high priority of government. Unless there is a reversal of this trend, the impact on the educational book industry will be a serious one. As well as this, educational publishers grapple with the problem of an educational trend away from centralism towards school autonomy, away from the set curriculum to a multitude of optional courses: a trend which makes for small print runs and expensive books.

Copyright

A grave threat to the health and continuance of Australian book publishing industry and educational book publishing in particular, has been acceleration in the use of the photocopier by educational institutions. As in the US and UK, educational publishers have found their profitability threatened as thousands of copies of their works made illegally and with great ease by students and their teachers.

In recognition of the need to protect the intellectual property of writers and publishers, and at the same time to give access to the information required by modern students and teachers, the Australian Government in 1980 passed amendments to the Copyright Act. The Copyright Amendment Act 1980 deals specifically with reprography and gives educational institutions a statutory right to make multiple copies of copyright material, but requires that records be kept, on the basis of which copyright owners may make a claim for payment for the use of their materials.

While theoretically laudable, and a world pioneer in the field, the new Australia law is cumbersome and proving difficult to implement. Copyright owners still view with uncertainty the receipt of a legitimate income from reprography, though publishers do look hopefully for an increase in book sales as a result of the law's regulatory requirements which make photocopying a less attractive option to educationists.

Florence Agreement

The Australian publishing industry is united in its support of the UNESCO Florence Agreement prohibiting its signatories from imposing import duties which obstruct the free flow of information between countries.

Although Australia has drawn back from ratifying the Agreement successive Australian governments have adhered to its spirit and books enter the country free of duties. Publishers continue to press for the Agreement to be ratified because they recognise their vulnerability in the present situation. In fact, it was only after strong publisher and community representation that books were exempted from the 2 per cent revenue duty on imported goods introduced in May 1969.

Public Lending Right

Introduced in 1974, Public Lending Right (PLR) in Australia pays publishers at the rate of one quarter of the payment given to authors. Although the rates are low and have not been indexed to inflation, it is seen as an important principle that a book's creator receives compensatory payment when that book is available in public lending libraries.

Industry Association

A major asset of the Australian publishing industry is the existence of a single strong industry association. The Australian Book Publishers Association is well supported by its diverse and often idiosyncratic member firms, and presents a remarkably united front on such matters as government policy, copyright issues, and sales tax. It plays a crucial role in organising annual Australian participation in significant overseas book fairs.

The ABPA also plays an important role as a channel of up-to-date information to its membership. The Association has a full time secretariat in Sydney with a staff of four.

New Government

On 5 March 1983, Australians voted overwhelmingly into Government the Australian Labour Party (ALP). The Australian publishing industry, alongwith other Australian industries and the Australian people generally, looks to the new government with a cautious degree of optimism. Australian publishers do not advocate expensive assistance but rather a climate of understanding and recognition of the special role and problems of book publishing.

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India Revives Book Development Body

Abul Hasan*

In pursuance of a recommendation made by the Unesco Meeting of Experts on Book Production and Distribution in Asia held at Tokyo in May 1966, India was among the first countries to set up a National Book Development Board to lay down guidelines for the development of the Indian Book Industry and to act as the central coordinating agency for promotion of books in the context of overall requirements of the country. This idea has since gained ground all over and many developing countries have established such central book promotion organisations.

The Indian Board functioned from 1967 to 1974 and made some far-reaching and important recommendations for the promotion of Indian books. The Board identified the vital areas of book development in the country and brought together various interests in a complex industry for the promotion of a national cause. The book promotion measures taken in India as a result of the Board's recommendations include 20 per cent tax concession to all book publishers since the assessment year 1971-72; integration of Book Publishing into the university curriculum and organisation of seminars and short-term in-service training courses for the book industry personnel; reduction in postal rates for registered V.P. book parcels; launching of a massive programme of original university level textbooks in Indian languages; a comprehensive survey of the Indian book industry and trade and a number of other special surveys; abolition of the tender system for purchase of reading materials by libraries; reduction in taxation on outgoing remittances of royalties; supply of printing paper at a concessional rate to textbook publishers and import of newsprint by user publishers; updating of the Indian National Bibliography and compilation and release of lists of selected titles; rationalisation of book imports; organisation of book exhibitions abroad and participation in international book fairs. The Board thus fulfilled its avowed task of advising on the basic issues which affected the promotion of the book industry and trade in our country and focussed attention of all concerned on the significant role books must play in national development.

Meanwhile the book industry acquired many new dimensions and a need was felt for producing and promoting books for certain special categories of readers like children and rural people. The export potential of Indian books also expanded and new markets were available to absorb certain types of Indian books. Problems like non-availability of printing paper at reasonable prices and escalating cost of book production persisted despite the steps which were taken to encounter these difficulties. Besides, a need was also felt for declaring a national book policy which serves the interests of all the components of the Indian book industry and trade including readers.

In order to meet crucial challenges in the book field and give a second look into the book industry situation, Government of India has set up a National Book Development Council with additional functions and a pragmatic structure. Like the erstwhile book Development Board, the Council will consist of official representatives from the concerned Ministries and autonomous bodies and nominees of the national associations of publishers, booksellers and authors. Besides, some authors, publishers and intellectuals have also been included in the Council in their personal capacity.

The functions assigned to the newly set up Book Development Council include, *inter-alia*, fostering reading habit; promoting literature especially relevant to children and rural illiterates; exploring possibilities and avenues for the export of Indian books particularly to developing countries; organising seminars, workshops and training

* Special Officer (BP) Govt. of India, Ministry of Education and Culture.

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courses for the book industry personnel; encouraging authorship particularly in Indian languages; suggesting measures for safeguarding the interests of authors in general and for encouraging Indian authors to write suitable textbooks and Indian publishers to publish them particularly in scientific and technical disciplines at higher education level and undertaking and promoting research, surveys, studies and special projects in order to achieve these objectives. An important function of the Council will be to draft a national book policy which might represent a harmonious blend of the interests of the readers.

The headquarters of the Council shall be at New Delhi and its secretariat located in the National Book Trust premises. The Chairman of the Trust, Shri Krishna Kriplani, has been nominated as the Chairman of the Council also. The tenure of the Chairman and members of the Council shall normally be four years. The General Body of the Council shall meet at least once a year. However, the Council may set up Committees/Panels for specific purposes which may meet as frequently as required.

With the present constitution of the Council which has a balanced composition and expanded functions, it is hoped that the pace of book promotion will be accelerated and the problems faced by the Indian book industry and new challenges in the book field will be tackled with the cooperation of allconcerned.

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Social Science Documentation Centre

PERFORMANCE AND PROSPECTS

S.P. Agrawal*

Definitions

"Definitions", said Samuel (Erewhon) Butler in his *Note Books* "are a kind of scratching and generally leave a sore place more sore than it was before." Both 'Documentation' and 'social sciences' are vague and complex concepts, conveying different meanings to different peoples, and both cover vast and ill-defined areas.

According to the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux (ASLIB) documentation means "recording, organisation and dissemination of specialised knowledge", and, Webster's dictionary defines social sciences as "the branches of science that deal with the institutions and functioning of human society and with the interpersonal relationships of individuals as member of society." Documentation service is a two-way activity in which dissemination and feedback are closely inter-linked. A crucial facet of documentation activity is the bibliographic control over reading material comprising monographs as well as microthought embodied in articles, pamphlets, reports, etc. Now that research has become increasingly inter-disciplinary, appropriate documentation of research materials has become indispensable. This is more so of social science research than any other discipline as social sciences in India as indeed elsewhere have been a grouping of several more or less inter-dependent studies, rather than a single subject, embracing even natural sciences, capable of being associated or united to others; and therefore having forged new ties with all shades of 'knowledge' and 'state of knowing' as a 'personal attribute'.

Genesis

The enormous growth of social sciences during the last two centuries has transformed human society not only as a result of new discoveries, the examination of new phenomena, the application of more refined methods and the borrowing of ideas from other disciplines, but even more as a result of constant re-interpretation of existing concepts, techniques and models. Although the tradition of teaching and research in social sciences in India is relatively recent, the concern with the outcome of rapid changes that have taken place and the response of the Indian academic community to developments in social sciences elsewhere, have contributed to the rapid growth of social sciences in the country as well. With the great expansion through the 1960s, the Government of India also took serious note of the contribution the Indian social scientists can make in tackling the social and economic problems of the people. A significant consequence was the establishment of the Indian Council of Social Science Research in May 1969. The organisation has, during the 1970s, addressed itself to the task of organising, sponsoring, promoting, coordinating, publishing and utilizing research in social sciences in this country. Among the many programmes developed by the Council to achieve these objectives, the provision of documentation and bibliographical services to social science community stands out. Top priority was given by the Council to the setting up of a documentation and bibliographical services available to the social scientists of the country. Accordingly, a Social Science Documentation Centre (SSDC) was set up in 1970 by the ICSSR. Like any special set up, the SSDC has had to adapt to the organisation it serves and has taken up the following programmes and activities:

(1) Collection of reference materials;

(2) Collection of unpublished doctoral theses approved by Indian universities and research reports of the projects sponsored/undertaken

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by the ICSSR and other research institutions assisted by the ICSSR;

(3) Establishment of a reprographic and micro-filming unit;

(4) Preparation of select bibliographies on request;

(5) Striving for bibliographical control over social science materials;

(6) Award of study grants to research scholars for visiting libraries.

A beginning was made with two broad categories of programmes: (i) Projects activities undertaken by the Council directly or in collaboration with selected institutions, and (ii) Projects assisted by the Council with its grant-in-aid scheme. Additionally an Inter-library Resources Centre was set up for the purpose of resource sharing.

A brief description of projects in both categories is given below:

Projects undertaken by the Council

Projects that fall in this category are: (i) Union Catalogue of Periodicals and Serials; (ii) Annotated Indian Economic Bibliography; (iii) Retrospective Index of Periodicals; (iv) Gandhi Bibliography; (v) Area Studies Bibliographies; and (vi) Language Bibliographies.

Union Catalogue of Social Science Serials

The compilation of Union Catalogue was the first project undertaken on 1 April 1970, and formally completed on 31 March 1976 by the Social Science Documentation Centre, the documentation division of the ICSSR.

The ICSSR has specified the social sciences for the purpose of research supported by it. In the Union Catalogue, however, it was decided to widen the scope of interest and not to limit it to ICSSR specified disciplines. And as such, the disciplines included were: anthropology, commerce, demography, economics, education, geography, history, international affairs, journalism, law, library science, management, political science, psychology, public administration, sociology, statistics, and town and country planning.

A union catalogue is primarily a reference tool to help locate availability of known items of the category of materials covered by it. In this case, the idea was to render help to scholars in their search for relevant social science research material. It also helped concerned libraries to share their serial resources with one another for the benefit of their clientele.

The union catalogue is not an inventory of all the libraries in India. Selection was necessary. Firstly, it seemed proper to select such libraries which are known to have large holdings of serials in social sciences. Secondly, it was decided to include a minimum of such libraries in each state or city as this would provide reasonably easy access to any researcher in that area. Such libraries were identified in consultation with a senior librarian in the region.

The huge task of creating a union catalogue could not obviously be accomplished by a staff sitting in Delhi. It required the involvement and active cooperation of the libraries and their staff in different states of India. A scheme was therefore formulated which provided for the appointment of project directors in every state to collect the data from the libraries in their respective states. Necessary facilities were provided and a programme was devised to record and present the holdings and individual serial title in a uniform and standardised pattern.

"Serials" is a comprehensive term. It connotes any periodical publication of any frequency published by any agency. Ordinarily, it includes periodicals, magazines, bulletins, newsletters, annuals (reports, year-books, etc.), journals, memoirs, and proceedings and transactions of societies, conferences, congresses and legislative bodies. Most government publications and those of international organisations are of serial nature.

The project covered 535 libraries in 17 states of India and presented the holdings of a total of 31,125 titles of reasonable significance to researchers in the social sciences. It is estimated that nearly 800 persons engaged in library work were connected with this project under which 32 volumes were compiled.

Of the 21 Indian states (Sikkim was not a constituent state at the time) and nine union territories, 17 states and two union territories were covered by the project. Four states (Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura) and seven union territories (Andaman and Nicobar, Arunachal Pradesh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Goa, Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep, Mizoram, and Pondicherry) were excluded because the library situation in these areas was not yet developed in terms of resources for social science research. In any subsequent updating project, some of these areas will have to be covered.

The union catalogue, by its very nature, requires revision from time to time to provide information about the current status of serials in our libraries. For, both weeding out certain serials as well as enlargement in the holdings take place. Unique holdings of some titles may also be discovered in presently lesser known libraries. The revision of the Union Catalogue is not only desirable but imperative considering the growth in libraries and its usefulness as a tool for scholars for locating materials expeditiously.

It is, therefore, being considered to take up this work on a regular basis and make it a core activity

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and a continuing programme of the SSDC.

As a supporting activity, it was at the outset considered necessary to compile Union Lists of Social Science Periodicals. Four volumes of the Union lists relating to periodicals received in Andhra Pradesh, Bombay, Delhi and Karnataka libraries were brought out in 1971-1972. The Delhi list was updated in 1978 and subsequently revised in 1982. It records the availability of 5,174 periodical titles in 91 libraries in Delhi during 1982.

This compilation of union catalogues of serials excluded newspapers. Separately, a preliminary edition of union catalogue of Newspapers reflecting holdings in Delhi libraries as on 15 September 1978 was brought out in mimeo form and distributed to local libraries for reference. It is being updated and the information is intended to be maintained on cards. Information from 20 libraries has so far been collected.

A Directory of Social Science Research Institutions and Directory of Professional Organisations in India were also compiled and published in 1971. These have been updated and the information is available on cards for reference.

Indian Economic Bibliography

The second major project on documentation undertaken by the ICSSR was the compilation of an Annotated Bibliography on the Economic History of India, 1500-1947. While the ICSSR provided the entire financial support, the actual work including recruitment and training of staff was taken up by the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune.

In this bibliography, efforts have been made to cover all the materials in the English language. All entries have been briefly but critically annotated. Statistical data wherever available, are described in detail. Location of the materials consulted and their physical condition have also been mentioned.

The project, was started on 1 April 1971, and completed in 1979.

There is a wealth of information and statistics available in official publications, travelogues, treatises, periodical articles, pamphlets, dissertations, archives, and official records. Sometimes, it lies hidden. Hence, the need for careful annotation.

Retrospective Index

With the experience of preparing the union catalogue, the SSDC has planned to prepare a retrospective cumulative index of Indian social science periodicals right from their respective first volume. The Retrospective Index Project was started on 1 April 1976.

Even though these periodicals are a valuable source of raw material for researchers, the treasure trove very often remains untapped, for want of a proper tool.

There are a number of well-known foreign indexing publications. These, however, do not scan Indian journals to an adequate degree. The indigenous efforts, few and far between, have shown a marked improvement during this decade as far as coverage and regularity are concerned.

SSDC identified 240 periodicals of import for the project, and decided on 1970 as the cut-off year. So far, work relating to indexing of journals in Education, Psychology, Anthropology and Sociology has been completed while in the field of Economics and Political Science, it is in progress. When the project is completed by the mid '80s, it will offer bibliographical control of periodicals literature published over the past hundred years or so which has potential utility to social scientists.

The index is planned to be maintained initially on cards which can be consulted by scholars even while the work is in progress.

The initial experience of bringing out a volume of "Indian Education Index" under this series has received wide appreciation. It is, therefore, planned to make this a long-term continuing service and bring out a series of volumes.

When completed, the Retrospective Cumulative Index will have the following advantages:

(1) The index will provide reasonable bibliographic control of periodical literature published in this country during approximately the last 150 years;
(2) The union catalogue volumes will give the location of the needed volumes of any periodical for quick and easy access;
(3) Inter-library Resources Centre will try to provide access to these volumes or supply copies of required articles at reasonable cost.

Mahatma Gandhi Bibliography

The National Committee for Gandhi Centenary in India initiated a project in April 1968 of compiling an exhaustive and authoritative bibliography of all writings on Gandhiji at the National Library, Calcutta. The scope was limited to monographs on Gandhiji published before 2 October 1970, the closing date of the Centenary year.

With the winding up of the National Committee, the Union Ministry of Education entrusted the responsibility of completing the project with the ICSSR.

The Council decided to enlarge the scope of the work to incorporate all Indian languages, to include monographs published till 31 December 1972, and to bring out biennial supplements to keep the basic volumes updated.

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Most of the monographs, which are wholly and directly on Gandhiji, are in English language. The first volume in the series, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi: A Bibliography, was therefore devoted to monographs in English. The volume included 800 titles, among which 79 represented theses on Gandhiji accepted by Indian and foreign universities. This was followed by volumes in Hindi, Sanskrit and Urdu. The manuscript of Bengali fascicule is also ready to be released for printing. The remaining volumes are at various stages of compilation.

The Council now assists Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi, to bring out biennial volumes covering publications in all languages.

Area Studies Bibliographies

Started during 1979, the project on Area Studies Bibliographies aimed at bringing together all Social Science materials of research value pertaining to the different states and union territories. Under this project it is envisaged to bring out a series of bibliographies which will cover materials in social sciences available in any form and language, exclusively related to the area concerned.

It will cover all available materials to date. The project is divided into two phases. The first phase will cover materials in Indian languages. The second phase will cover materials in English and other foreign languages. All research materials—both published and unpublished—will be included in the bibliography.

Under the supervision of a Project Director in each state the compilation work is in progress in the following regions; viz., Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh. About 2,500 titles in regional languages and about 2,000 titles in English language have so far been received on the various states and union territories.

Language Bibliographies

This project is wider in scope and seeks to cover research material in all disciplines in social sciences in Indian regional languages. The compilation work of bibliographies in Gujarati (at Gujarat Vidyapeeth) and Hindi (at Nagri Pracharini Sabha) is in progress. The bibliographical data of about 3,600 publications is in hand.

Bibliographies on Demand

SSDC provides short bibliographies on a specific subject on demand. This activity has proved very popular among research scholars indicated by increasing demand for such bibliographies. It serves not only national scholars but also international organisations, and provides listings of Indian books on Economics, Political Science and Sociology to International Committee for Social Science Documentation, Paris, for their respective volumes of bibliographies and provides data for International Bulletin of Bibliography on Education (BIBE). Bibliographical details of 1,105 Indian books published during 1979-81 have already been provided to BIBE. Information about research institutions, social scientists and information centres was also collected on behalf of UNESCO for its data base during 1982-83.

Documentation Consultancy Service

Advice and guidance is provided to the social science research institutions for properly developing their documentation activities. Some of the institutions which have availed of this service are—Centre for Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi, D.S. College, Aligarh, Deen Dayal Upadhya Research Institute, New Delhi; Gandhi Memorial Museum, Madurai; Indian Council for Research in International Economic Relations, New Delhi; Institute for Public Administration, Lucknow; National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration Library, New Delhi; Office of the Regional Adviser in Social Sciences in Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok.

Projects assisted with Grant-in-Aid

The second category of programmes assisted by the ICSSR with grants-in-aid relates to compilation of indexes and bibliographies.

Index of Articles on Agricultural Economics

The Indian Society of Agricultural Economics has prepared an index of articles on agricultural economics from foreign as well as Indian journals. The period covered is 1950-70. The index is computer produced. Low-priced sets of index cards are available to institutions in India.

Asian Social Science Bibliography

The Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi started the Southern Asian Social Science Bibliography in 1952 with assistance from UNESCO. When UNESCO aid was discontinued in 1969, the ICSSR stepped in and the publication has since been continued as the Asian Social Science Bibliography. Each annual volume includes about 2,000 entries drawn from over 200 journals in the social sciences.

Documentation on Asia

A similar case was that of Documentation on Asia which was compiled annually by the Indian Council of World Affairs until 1961. With ICSSR's monetary support, the series will be brought up further.

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Directory of Behavioural Science Research in India

The first volume of the directory was published in 1966. It covered research done and published in India during 1925 and 1965. Funds were provided for the second volume pertaining to the period 1966 to 1968, compiled by Dr Udai Pareek, it has 6,268 entries under 22 headings, post-1968 research is covered in the ICSSR journal, Indian Psychological Abstracts.

A companion volume by the same author is an Index to Behavioural Science abroad. This volume contains 1,598 entries and includes a bibliographical directory of 165 foreign authors.

Doctorates in Social Sciences

The ICSSR published a comprehensive volume of doctorates awarded by Indian universities up to 1967, and brought out yearly additions till 1971. Financial assistance is now provided to the Association of Indian Universities to continue the series.

Marathi Periodicals Index

Assistance was offered to Date Soochi Mandal, which continues the work of a distinguished Marathi bibliographer, the late S.G. Date, in its project of compiling a complete index of articles in all Marathi periodicals from 1800-1950.

Kannada Periodicals Index

Grant-in-aid was provided to the University of Mysore for compilation of a retrospective index to social science articles in Kannada periodicals.

Hindi Periodicals Index

The Council is also supporting an undertaking of the Research Foundation, Delhi, for completing an index of Hindi periodicals.

Children's Periodicals Index

The ICSSR nurtured during the International Year of the Child, a proposal for an index of children's periodicals from the Behavioural Sciences Centre, New Delhi.

The ICSSR has sanctioned grant-in-aid for many Institutes like:

(a) Institute of Studies in Psychological Testing, Dehradun, Annotated Bibliography of Journals in Education, Psychology and Sociology (revised and updated ed.)

(b) Behavioural Sciences Centre, Delhi, Bibliography on Foreign Research on Indian Political System.

(c) Delhi Library Association, Delhi, Indian Press Index.

(d) University of Delhi, Information Requirements and Suggestions for Developing Library and Information Services for Social Scientists in India, etc.

ICSSR has also provided a grant-in-aid of Rs. 1,17,000 to the Indian Council of World Affairs towards the maintenance of the Library during 1980-81 (in addition to journals subscribed for ICWA).

Another method by which the ICSSR has promoted publication of good reference work is by bulk purchase of copies. In this category are included (1) Index India, (2) Indian Behavioural Sciences Abstracts, (3) Indian Press Index, (4) A Guide to Reference Material on India, (5) Theses on the Indian Subcontinent (1877-1971) and (6) Indian Political Movement (1919-71).

Inter-library Resources Centre

In 1973, ICSSR in collaboration with Jawaharlal Nehru University launched a project, novel in this part of the world. It was the Inter-library Resources Centre, a deposit library, at 35 Ferozshah Road where the Social Science Documentation Centre is located in New Delhi.

Under the scheme, local libraries, a dozen of them initially deposited with this Centre their non-current, infrequently used but important-for-research serials (i.e., newspapers, journals, government reports, etc.). The scheme is intended to serve a double purpose of making available a wealth of materials to scholars at one place and at the same time relieving the libraries from space problem to some extent. The ownership of the materials remains with them if they so choose, and no further financial outlay is required on their part. The number of participating libraries including SSDC has risen to 30. Recently about 55,000 volumes have been shifted to the space acquired in Jawaharlal Nehru University Library, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi.

SSDC's library collection consists of basic materials in social sciences: monographs on research methodology, bibliographical and reference tools, items bearing on ICSSR Projects, publications for which grant-in-aid is provided, important journals, and unpublished research reports and theses. (If a thesis is not received gratis from the university or University Grants Commission, a copy is directly purchased from the author). The Centre has so far collected 2,000 theses and 800 research reports and adds 2,000 periodical titles annually.

Auxiliary services provided by the ILRC are inter-library loan (by obtaining additional material needed by readers from other libraries on loan), reprography (by providing photocopies of materials required by the scholars), and duplicating / cyclostyling / rotating services on payment.

ICSSR operates a study grants

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scheme for the benefit of scholars. The facility enables them to consult materials at libraries in pursuance of their research interests.

Looking Ahead

A national information grid has also been on the planning board for some time. The system is expected to link centres of excellence (in social sciences) in the country and provide expeditious service to the seekers of information through coordinated cooperation among the constituents. Such expeditious servicing is a skilled operation which will not only require a good deal of inter-institutional organization, but, more importantly adequately trained and competent staff. An awareness of the requirements of documentation as a base for the research advice in the context of national planning, is generally lacking in this country. There is sufficient realization of the fact that decision making should be directed and controlled on the basis of informal empirical studies and systematic researches. The role of documentation in collecting currently known facts from various sources systematically, digesting and organizing them, retrieving and disseminating them to the researchers speedily has also been recognized. What probably is not appreciated is that no documentation service can perform this role until adequate resources, material and human—are made available to it. It would, therefore, not be out of place to draw the attention of all concerned and the social science community in particular to their obligations towards the development and growth of the Social Science Documentation Centre of the ICSSR to enable the Centre to provide the services vis-a-vis the developmental needs of the country.

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(All items are non-priced and published by the ICSSR, New Delhi.)

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(12) Report of the Second Review Committee, 1978.

(13) Report of Social Science in India: Retrospective, and Prospective Vols. 1 and 2, 1973.

(14) Retrospective Cumulative Index of Indian Social Periodicals, 1976.

(15) Social Science Research in India: A Report, by Andrew Snonfield and A.B. Cherns (ICSSR Occasional Monograph No. 3), 1971.

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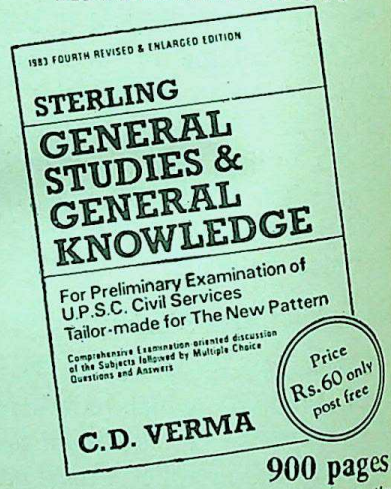

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Jnanpith Award For Mahadevi Verma

Mahadevi Verma

Born in 1907 at Farrukhabad in U.P., Mahadeviji attracted one's attention from her early years. She was mellow natured, inwardly pensive, sophisticated in her own way, and bearing an innate warmth towards petty live creatures and the unnoticed ones around.

She did her M.A. in Sanskrit in 1933 with merit and was appointed Principal of the Prayag Mahila Vidyapith the same year. In the years to come she was the Vice-Chancellor of that institution. Besides Sanskrit literature, she studied philosophy deeply and with a sentimental attachment. She has always had live and active interest in art, so much so that it was her own brush and pencil which adorned her major poetical works *Yama* and *Deepshikha*.

Poetry, in fact was in her blood. That perhaps accounts for her producing some very good poems when she was only 12. Her first collection came out in 1930. And then another and yet another followed in regular succession. Significantly she did not confine herself to this literary form only: she adopted prose also as her medium. And not unexpectedly her prose had the charm of poetry, depths of thinking and variations of prose: together making artistic cameos of those around, known and respected.

She has to her credit some 20 works: most of them being a milestone each both in respect of the subject matter and the style. Some of her prose works have really no equal, even as her poetry is an epitome of lyric beauty and painful awakening of life's total reality.

Yama and *Deepshikha* are her two outstanding collections of poems, the former being a landmark in the history of lyric poetry in India. It's a composite collection of 'Nihar', 'Rashmi', 'Neeraja' and 'Sandhya-geet': indicating the four stages of growth. YAMA was first published in 1939, its 5th edition appearing in the late seventies. Mahadeviji is one of the illustrious quartet of Chhayavad, the other three being: Nirala, Pant and Prasad.

Chhayavadi poetry is not a shadow of the Western Romantic poetry. It marks instead a new awakening to an eternal sense of oneness of life where Man and Nature stand in the mutual relationship of reflection and reflector. Sometimes it is Nature which mirrors Man and his transient joys and intransient sorrows, and at others it is vice versa, and she holds that, however close this relationship; it cannot satiate the spirit of Man unless the self is emptied completely.

She was awarded the 'Seksaria Puraskar' in 1934, 'Mangala Prasad Paritoshik' in 1944, the title of 'Padmabhushan' in 1956 and the 'Bharat Bharati Puraskar' in 1983. She got the D. Litt (*honoris causa*) from the Vikram University of Ujjain in 1979; and was a nominated member of the U.P. Vidhan Sabha for some years. □□□

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The Agrarian System in Ancient India 25.00

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The Hindu Avtars 5.00

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by P.C. Bhattacharya Rs. 100.00

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FEDERATION NEWS

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS 1983-84

The Annual Conference of the Federation of Indian Publishers was inaugurated on 5th August, 1983, by Shri Jagmohan, Lieutenant Governor, Delhi. General Elections took place the next day and the following office-bearers were elected for the year 1983-84:

President	:	Shri O.P. Ghai Sterling Publishers (P) Ltd.
Vice President	:	Shri S.K. Bhatia D.K. Publishers Distributors
	:	Shri G.U, Mehta Vakils, Feffer & Simons Ltd.
	:	Shri K.S. Padmanabhan Affiliated East West Press (P) Ltd.
	:	Shri B.K. Dhur Academic Publishers
Hony. General Secretary	:	Shri Shakti Malik Abhinav Publications
Hony. Joint Secretary	:	Shri S. Balwant Ajanta Books International
Hony. Treasurer	:	Shri K. D. Bhatia Asian Publication Services

Mr O.P. Ghai, the newly elected President, speaking on the occasion said: "I extend my sincere thanks to you all for unanimously electing me as the President of the Federation. I can assure you that I will try my best to come up to your expectations and justify the confidence reposed in me."

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DELEGATION TO MOSCOW

A sizable contingent of Indian publishers participated in the Fourth Moscow International Book Fair from 6 to 12 September 1983. Leading publishers taking part were Vikas Publishing House, Sterling Publishers, S. Chand and Co., Naya Prokash, Peoples Publishing House and others. Indian publications of eighty other publishers were displayed by the National Book Trust.

A delegation of Federation of Indian Publishers, led by its President, Mr O.P Ghai, visited the Soviet Union to take part in the meeting of the Joint Working Group of the USSR State Committee for Publishing, Printing and Book Trade and the Federation of Indian Publishers.

The other members of the Working Group are Mr Narendra Kumar, Mr Vishwanath and Mr Asoke K. Ghosh.

MEETING WITH SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH, JOINT FINANCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL ADVISER, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

At a meeting with Shri Manmohan Singh, a wide range of subjects were discussed, including the role of the private sector in educational publishing, rising cost of paper, need for setting up of new libraries, grants, library legislation and import of books.

A memorandum, on these subjects, was also handed over to him. The discussions took place in a very cordial atmosphere and Shri Manmohan Singh assured our members that these will be looked into.

LIST OF OWN AND AGENCY PUBLICATIONS

Arora RK: Administrative Change in India	Rs 60.00	Mani Vathsala: Foreign Capital and Economic Development	Rs 50.00
Bhagowalia Dr U: Vaisnavism and Society in Northern India (1980)	Rs 80.00	Menon KSV: Development of Backward Areas and the Role of Financial Institutions	Rs 1 0.00
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Das SK: Glimpses of Divine Light (Illustrated) 1981	Rs 75.00	Patnaik JN: The Aesthetics of New Criticism	Rs 50 00
De Souza A: Children in Creches: Day Care for the Urban Poor	Rs 40.00	Ray Baren: India: Nature of Society and Present Crisis	Rs 80.00
Dhindsa KS: India's Export Performance (1981)	Rs 70.00	Sachchidanand Sinha: Caste System—Myths, Reality, Challenge	Rs 100.00
Dutta DK: Socials, Moral and Religious Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi	Rs 50.00	Singh RG: Rural Modernisation—Contradiction and Change	Rs 80.00
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Gupta Suman: Origin and Theories of Linguistic Philosophy	Rs 50.00	Vidyarthi LP and Others: Gandhi and Social Sciences	Rs 30.00
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NEWS & EVENTS

MAGSAYSAY AWARD WINNERS FOR 1983

A Thai artist, a Taiwanese mayor, a Sri Lanka song writer, an Indonesian engineer and an American priest were honoured as recipients of the 1983 Magsaysay Awards.

The Rev Aloysius Schwartz was selected for the International Understanding Award for his social work with destitute children in South Korea.

This year's award for public service went to Mr Fua Hariphitak, 83 who the foundation said is a "veteran guardian of Thailand's classical artistic traditions." He spent 14 years directing the restoration of the library at a Buddhist monastery in Thou Buri, Thailand.

Mayor Su Nan-Cheng, 47 of Tanian City, Taiwan, who the government service award "for making the government readily available and responsive to the needs of all citizens, while attractively modernising an ancient city."

The Rev Marcelline Jayekody, an 81-year-old Sri Lankan Roman Catholic priest, was honoured in journalism, literature and creative communication arts for his work as a song writer. He runs a performing arts school for young people near Colombo.

Mr Anton Soedjarwo was given the community leadership award for "stimulating Javanese villagers" in Indonesia to genuine self-reliance "using simple, readily available technology."

BOOK ON DELHI RELEASED

"Delhi must be made beautiful both in body and spirit," the Lt. Governor, Mr Jagmohan, said.

Mr Jagmohan was releasing a book—Delhi—A Portrait—brought out by the Delhi Tourism Development Corporation.

Mr Khuswant Singh has written the text while the photographs are by Mr Raghu Rai,

NBT TO HOLD CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR

The National Book Trust (NBT) will hold from this year an annual children's book fair in the country.

The first fair will be held in Calcutta from November 4 to 14, NBT director, Dr Loke Nath Bhattacharya said.

The NBT will also observe a "national book week" from December 14 to 20, which will again focus its attention on the child.

The Trust has also instituted awards for illustrators of children's books. The awards carry a first prize of Rs 5,000 two second prizes of Rs 3,000 each and some certificates of merit, Dr Bhattacharya said.

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RAKESH'S NOVEL TRANSLATED INTO RUSSIAN

The novel 'Andhere band kamre' (Dark closed room) by noted Hindi writer Mohan Rakesh has been translated into Russian and published by Soviet Publishing House 'Khudozhestvennaya Literature' (Fiction literature) in the World Novel of XX Century series.

The aim of this prestigious multi-volumed series is to introduce to the Soviet readers the best works from the modern world literature.

In his introduction to the Russian edition, a noted Soviet Indologist and specialist in modern Indian literature, Dr Vladimir Lankin, speaks highly of the galaxy of writers who came to the literary scene of India after independence, and gained great popularity by the beginning of the sixties.

Dr Lankin considers Mohan Rakesh as one of the best representatives of these writers. He observes that experiments in the field of literary form did not take these writers away from vitally important problems of the times and from truthful portrayal of reality.

SOVIET BOOKS IN INDIAN LANGUAGES

In 1982 the Soviet publishing house Raduga put out 130 book titles in 12 Indian languages. In 1983 it will publish 160 book titles for India. The Raduga specialises in publishing fiction. Its publications familiarise Indian readers with the best of Russian and Soviet literature. Last year the masterpieces of Russian classics, such as "Crime and Punishment" by Fyodor Dostoyevsky, "Resurrection" by Leo Tolstoy and selected works by Alexander Pushkin in two volumes, were also published in the Indian language

LIST OF FAIRS TO BE HELD IN 1983-84

1. International Book Fair, Moscow, 6-12 September 1983
2. 15th Singapore Festival of Books & Book Fair, September 1983
3. Frankfurt Book Fair, 12-17 October 1983
4. Video Communication Cannes (France), 13-19 October 1983
5. International Book Fair, Belgrade, 27 October to November 1983
6. Foire Internationale Du Livre. Montreal (Canada) 23-26 November 1983
7. Ghana Book Fair. Accra, November 1983
8. 2nd Middle East Book Fair, Bahrain, December 1983
9. Manila Book Fair, January/February 1984
10. Cairo International Book Fair, January/February 1984
11. International Book Fair, Bologna (Children's) March 1984
12. 9th Ife Book Fair, Nigeria, March 1984
13. Quebec International Book Fair, Quebec, Canada, April 1984
14. London Book Fair, April 1984
15. American Booksellers Association Convention and Trade Exhibit, June 1984

BOOKS ON 2,500 FREEDOM FIGHTERS

"Ujaloon ke Safeer" (messengers of light), a book dealing with 2,500 lesser-known freedom fighters from the days of Bahadur Shah Zafar, was presented to the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi by its author, Dr. Hayat Warsi.

The book also contains some touching Urdu poems proscribed by the British, Dr. Warsi is a well-known poet.

Present on the occasion were the UP Minister for integration, Mr. Ammar Rijvi, the general secretary of the All-India Unity in Diversity Council, Mr Nasir Fakri, and some Congress (I) MLAs of UP.

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The Prime Minister was also presented with another book, "Jallianwala Bagh ki Khooni Dharti aur Mere Mata Pita," by its author Mr Sohan Lal Bharti.

DELHI VARSITY APPOINTS NEW DEAN

The executive councellor of Delhi University accepted the proposal of the Vice-Chancellor to appoint the principal of Deshbandhu College, Mr Mohinder Singh dean of colleges, at its meeting.

Mr Mohinder Singh had been the dean of colleges from 1975 to 1980. He was the first dean of students welfare of Delhi University. He has been a member of the academic council for about 14 years.

BOOKS WORTH 10 CRORES EXPORTED

India exported books including periodicals worth Rs. 10 crores during 1981-82 according to figures available now.

PRIZES FOR BOOKS FOR NEO-LITERET

The Ministry of Education and Culture has selected 40 manuscripts in various Indian languages under the national prize competition for literature for neo-literates. Each prize consists of a cash award of Rs. 1,000 along with a certificate, according to an official release.

The competition organised by the Directorate of Adult Education, aims at stimulating and encouraging creative writers to prepare suitable material in 14 major languages of the country for adult education.

This year's awards are one each in Malayalam, Punjabi and Sindhi, two each in Assamese, Oriya, Telugu and Urdu, three each in Gujarati. Kannada and Tamil, four each in Bangali and Marathi and 12 in Hindi.

LITERARY AWARDS ANNOUNCED

The West Bengal announced on 4th May the names of the recipients of the Rabindra Puraskar for 1983. The prize for the best literary work has been awarded to Dinesh Das for his collection of poems, Ram Gechhe Banabashe, Sankarshan Ray, author of Bhutatwiker Chokhe Raschim Bangla, has won the prize for the best book on science.

The winners will be presented a cash prize of Rs. 10,000 each and a tamrapatra.

No prize will be awarded this year for the best book on the Bengali language or Bengali literature in a non-Bengali language.

ARGENTINE WRITER GETS FRENCH AWARD FOR ART AND LITERATURE

The Argentine writer Mr. E. SABATO received the French Medal for Art and Literature from the French Minister of Culture. Mr. Sabato is one of the most famous Argentine writers and has written novels like "The Tunnel" and "Over Tombs and Heroes".

LITERARY AWARDS

The 1983 Rajaji Literary Awards, consisting of Rs. 10,000 and a tamrapatra, will be given to works in Marathi and Gujarati. All entries should have been published in India between January 1975 and December 1982. Forms will be available at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi 110 001.

AWARD FOR AUTHORS

The ministry of education and culture has selected four books and manuscripts written by authors in language other than their mother-tongue, Hindi and Sanskrit for award of Rs. 2,000 each. Two translated works have also been selected for an award of Rs. 1,000 each.

These awards are given under the scheme of the ministry to encourage people to learn Indian languages other than their own mother-tongue, which would help promote social cohesion and national integration.

The following are the titles and the authors: "Sanchaya" (Kannada) by Mrs. Malti Tandon, "Kalid-e-Urooz" (Urdu) by Mr. Om Prakash Aggarwal, "Unhache Tukde" (Marathi) by Mr. S. Shyam Vimal and "Prithivir Manush; Kavitar Manush" (Bengali) by Mr. J. Pasna.

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AWARD MONEY INCREASED

Winners of Sahitya Akademi Awards will henceforward receive Rs. 10,000 instead of Rs 5,000 as at present.

An Akademi announcement said the enhancement will be effective from the 1983 awards to be presented early in 1984 to winning authors in 22 languages recognised by the Akademi.

The amount had been fixed at Rs 5,000 ever since the inception of the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1955.

USSR SHOW ROOM CHIEF

The new Chief of USSR Books & Periodicals Show Room in Bombay, Mr. J.L. Vorobiev, is a philologist. Born in Leningrad was graduated from the Foreign Language Institute, Moscow.

He joined All Association of Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga, Soviet Foreign Trade organisation, Sole Exporter & Importer of Books, Magazines, Gramophone Records, Postage Stamps and Slides in 1977 and has worked in Moscow.

He visited India, first time and last week he took over as the Chief of USSR Books & Periodicals Show Room from Mr. G. A. Alexandrov who is transferred to Moscow.

DICTIONARY FOR THE DEAF

A picture dictionary of functional language along with two work books and a speech manual for educating the deaf has been brought out by Vijaya Shikshan Sanstha in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Bombay North and Peico Electronics and Electricals Ltd.

Those who wish to buy this set or donate it to a deaf child may write to the Rotary Club of Bombay North, C/o. Warner Hindustan Ltd., 'Sahas,' 3rd floor 414/2 Veer Savarkar Marg, Bombay-25.

CHIEF OF PRINTING DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Mr. Arun Mehta, general manager of Vakil and Sons Limited and president of the All India Federation of Master Printers, has been appointed chairman of the development council for printing industry, including lithography, for two years, by the Government of India.

The council has 23 members, drawn from the government, the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society, type founders, ink manufacturers and the HMT.

RUSTOMJI BOOKS IN CHINESE

M.K. Rustomji, author of books on management, and C. Northcote Parkinson of Parkinson's Law fame, have recently signed together a package contract with Federal Publications of Singapore for publishing nine of their jointly-authored books in Chinese.

CBS OPENS DISTRIBUTION CENTRE IN HONGKONG

In early 1983, the International unit of CBS, New York took an important step to extend its sales and marketing presence in the Asia Pacific territory by opening a distribution centre in Hongkong,

HSAL Hongkong is the authorised agent to market the following publishers' imprints in the South East Asian market including India.

Holt, Rinehart & Winston—USA/UK
The Dryden Press—USA
W.B. Saunders—USA
Praeger Publishers—USA
Cassell Ltd., UK
Bailliere-Tindall—UK
Geoffrey Chapman—UK
Hayden Book Co., Inc., USA

CBS has plans to set up a joint-venture company in India.

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Till March 31, 1983, Macmillan India Ltd., had an exclusive arrangement for stocking and promoting the above imprints. HSAL have recently opened the market for the above products and are in the process of lining up distribution arrangements with various wholesale and retail stockists in India. The above products also include the HOLT SAUNDERS INTERNATIONAL EDITIONS reprinted in Japan. Many fast selling W.B. Saunders titles are included in this low priced HSIEs. HRW titles have also been recently included to make the list more comprehensive. HSAL is also not averse to include any other publishers' title in this programme.

RAMAYANA PUBLISHFD IN SOVIET UNION

The Ramayana has been published in Kalmyk language in Elista, the capital of the Soviet Kalmyk Republic, reports *Tass*. The book was translated by the philologists from its Sanskrit original.

Kalmyk folklore retained a multitude of oral versions of the Ramayana. The libraries of the Republic also keep seven manuscript texts of the poem in the old Kalmyk alphabet.

INDIA RANKS 3RD IN BOOK PRODUCTION

The export of books, including periodicals and journals during 1981-82 has been valued at about Rs. 100 million, reports PTI. India is one of the 10 major book producing countries of the world and ranks third in the production of English titles, according to official release.

S. KOREA TO PUBLISH TAGORE'S WORKS

South Korea, where Tagore is a household name, will publish the Nobel Laureate's complete works.

The publication, the first such work in the far east, will be completed in five years by the Tagore Society of Korea, said M. King Yang Shik, President of the society.

ZAIL RELEASES RAMAYANA BOOK

The President, Mr Zail Singh, called upon people to follow the message of the Ramayana that one should by loyal to principles.

Releasing a volume of "Valmiki's Ramayana" (retold for young readers), the President said the epic also drove home the fact that evil might thrive momentarily but the virtuous would ultimately succeed.

He said Guru Govind Singh had written in his autobiography that both Guru Nanak and he himself belonged to the "family tree" of Lord Rama.

The President commended the effort of Dr Krishna Datta Bharadwaj, who had written the volume and said it would help the younger generation to understand the epic easily since it is written in simple English. The book has been published by Pitambar Publishing Co., and the price is H.B. Rs 50 and P.B. Rs 20.

BOOK AUCTIONED PAGE BY PAGE

An original edition of U.S. artist and naturalist John James Audubon's Birds of America was auctioned page by page in Toronto for a record $ 1,774,960 auctioneers Sotheby's of New York reported.

Each of the 435 pages of the book, considered to be one of the most beautiful in the world brought in between $ 30,000 and $ 45,000, the company said.

The book printed in Britain between 1820 and 1830, is made up only of hand-coloured drawings—unaccompanied by a text—by Audubon of North American birds.

Birds of America has always been a collector's item, and its first edition, of which only 200 were printed, sold early in the last century for $ 1,000.

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TAGORE BIOGRAPHY IN RUSSIAN RELEASED

Rabindranath Tagore—A Biography, the Russian translation of this book by Mr Krishna Kripalani, Chairman of the National Book Trust, was released at the recently concluded Moscow International Book Fair.

A leading publisher of Moscow Molodaya Gvardiya, has published the book, which is their 643rd bi graph, in the series entitled 'World's Great Biography', The only other Indian figuring in the series is Jawaharlal Nehru,

Mr Kriplani said that one lakh copies of Tagore's biography were printed and the publishers estimated that the entire edition will be sold out in about two days.

MULK RAJ ANAND, AUTOGRAPHING "KAMASUTRA"

The booktrade witnessed a convention of autographing by the author, Mulk Raj Anand, his classic edition of the *KAMA SUTRA*, in the presence of an intimate gathering, in a most informal way, though the place chosen had the formal atmosphere of a five-star hotel, especially for a person like Mulk Raj Anand who is the author for the downtrodden.

The author shared the inspiration for the prolonged research on KAMA SUTRA with the audience.

"As I belong to the generation, which was early awakened to the perils of the machine age, I became aware that the leisure society, which had been promised a hundred years ago, had not arrived. Instead the dehumanisation of the world has taken place. People, even of the affluent classes, are forced to live in blocks of flats, in congested space, where there is hardly any privacy for the love life. The business man comes home and revenges himself for the humiliation of the routine life by assault on the wife. The result is unwanted children, born not in love, but in casual taking of woman. The arranged marriages of our society further lead to the murder of the soul of the bride. There is a complete lack of tenderness in loving.

The literature which the middle sections read is the rape, torture and sadist variety of James Hadley Chase, Arthur Hailey, Harold Robbins, Jacqueline Suzzane, Mario Pugo and the rest. The blue films are available galore in every city. The cassette culture makes the new young consider woman as made for sex.

I had been taught by Havelock Ellis, Bertrand Russell and D.H. Lawrence, to feel that we may go back to the memories of a pagan time, when people could love, and have their being in the heart of nature.

In spite of pollution of our city-world civilisation, there are still pockets like Baster, where the experimental marriages prevail. It is reminiscent of the time of Kalidas, Vatsayana, and Bhavabhuti. I have been going back to these ancestors for renewal. I believe the jaded appetites of the new rich can be humanised by the return to love-consciousness, as it was revealed in the *Kama Sutra*."

We look forward to such gatherings more often and in more places.

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HAVE TABLE LEGS

LEGS GOT SOULS?

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i.e., the chappies who wanted poets to put their souls into poetry—
'For heaven's sake' he expostulated,
'does a carpenter put his soul into the leg of the table he makes!'
'Well', we may reply,
'there are carpenters and carpenters'
For that matter,
there are printers and printers.
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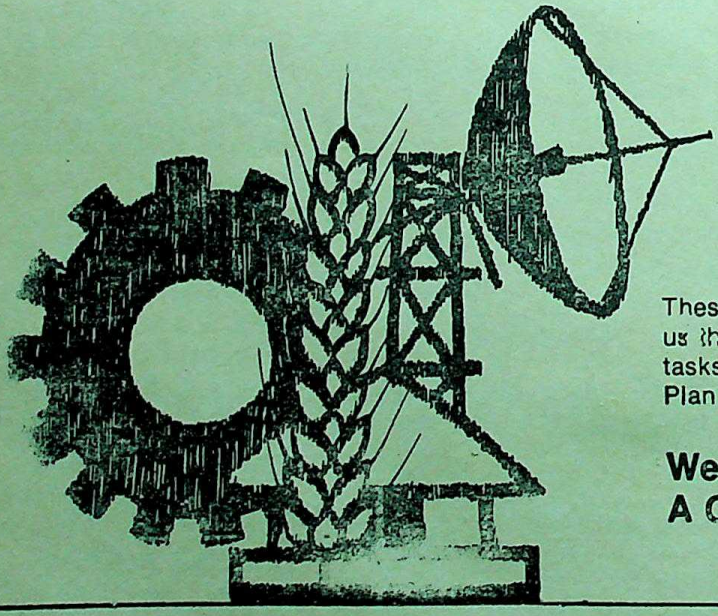

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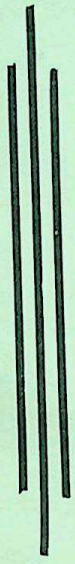

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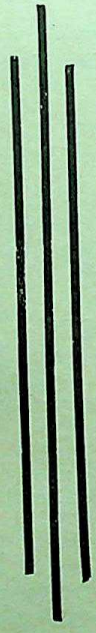

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S.D. Prohit, N. Shekhawat and H.C. Arya	Ascorbic Acid Metabolism in Phyllody of Sesame induced by Mycoplasma-like organisms (MIO).
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And, on 14 January 1982 the Prime Minister spelled out a new 20-Point Economic Programme and placed it on the "agenda for the nation". The new programme has been tailored to India in 1982. The present work, first of its kind, comprises the folllowing eight sections: (1) Programme in General; (2) Programme point-wise; (3) Programme in respect of Banks; (4) Programme in respect of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; (5) Programme in respect of Legislation; (6) Programme in respect of Budget; (7) The 5-Point Programme—General; and (8) The Revised 20-Point Economic Programme. The subject matter covers the period July 1975 to February 1982. Besides the academics, the book will prove to be of immense use to social scientists, programmers and planners, administrators as well as the political elite striving for the social transformation of the downtrodden and suffering masses of society.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF URBAN LAND (CEILING AND REGULATION) ACT, 1976 by Gopal Bhargava, Abhinav Publications, 1983, Rs 60

The book deals with the emerging issues of Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 and its impact on housing and industry. The aspect of Master Plan and its implications on agricultural land within the city limits have been discussed. The concept of urban vacant land with reference to Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation Act), 1976 and its critical appraisal has been elaborated in an exhaustive analysis. The cumbersome procedures and administrative loopholes of the competent authority are exposed. The restriction and control on the excess land and its repercussions on the urban development have been dealt with in a comprehensive manner. The book is unique as it explores the comprehensive aspects of socio-economic and legal implications of the subject with the empirical observations. The book will interest the Town Planners, Architects, Policy Makers, Politicians, Socio-Economic Scientists, Research Scholars and Legal Practitioners.

INDIA'S CARPET INDUSTRY: Development and Prospects by Torsten J. Lange, Prentice Hall of India (P) Ltd., 1983, Rs 25

In the matter of design, material and craftmanship, the Indian handmade carpet industry has made significant strides in the world market. This book, besides giving a historical overview, presents in sufficient detail the development of India's carpet industry and acquaints the readers with the art, techniques and requirements of the processes of carpet making.

By giving detailed information on all aspects of carpet manufacture and its export, this book should prove useful to businessmen who are professionally interested in the Indian carpets. The ultimate user and the connoisseur of the handmade carpets also stand to gain by reading this handy book.

The problems faced by the Indian carpet industry are identified and a few recommendations made to mitigate the same.

PRODUCTIVITY IN THE INDIAN ECONOMY: Rising Inputs for Falling Outputs by P.R. Brahmananda, Himalaya Publishing House, 1982, Rs 80

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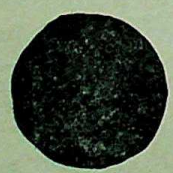

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in employment have ceased to be the chief determinants of growth. The focus in economics has shifted to productivity growth, the rate of increase in the efficiency of factors in production as the key to rapid development and speedy poverty eradication. Countries have obtained between 40 to 60 per cent of their growth rate because of productivity growth. There are very few books to study in the Indian economy on productivity growth from the new perspectives in economics. The monograph is perhaps the first effort to treat the theme both from macro and sectoral angles; the aim is to present the relevant data and relations on productivity change in India. A unique feature of the book is the new data and analyses provided on growth, distribution profit and wage rates, surplus to capital ratio, input costs in production etc., for all the sectors and for the economy.

The book lights up an important but dark area in Indian economics, particularly in the management of the economy. The material presented in the book cannot but fundamentally change the basis for an understanding on the Indian economy.

Besides bibliography and an index a number of appendices deal with controversies on development strategies the international productivity recession and an explanation of concepts are also included in the book.

STATE MONOPOLY CAPITALISM AND THE LABOUR THEORY OF VALUE by Ya. Pevsner, Progress Publishers, Moscow, 1982, Rs 7.25

This book by the well-known Soviet economist Ya. A. Pevsner investigates the theoretical problems of State-monopoly capitalism on the solution to which the strategy and tactics of communist and workers parties, as well as a correct orientation of class and political forces both within individual countries and on the international stage, largely depend. The author's main aim in this work is to study, from a Marxist-Leninist angle the correlation between the value and non-value factors under the conditions of contemporary capitalism, where the state has become, an inalienable part of the reproduction process.

The author acquaints the reader with views on the economic role of the bourgeois state, with their evolution as the role of the state changes; he considers the basic aspects of the operation of the law of value, specific features of commodity production under capitalism today, and the correlation between the expenditure of labour and the use-values created with its help.

BUSINESS LAW—A General Introduction by S.R. Patel, Asia Publishing House, 1982, Rs 125

This book covers the law embracing the whole gamut of business relations, and will prove to be an invaluable work for businessmen, senior executives and company secretaries, who are confronted with legal problems in their day-to-day work. The author examines the important principles underlying the law of sale of goods, the law of negotiable instruments etc.

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THE GEOGRAPHY AND POLITICS OF AFGHANISTAN by R. Gopalakrishnan, Concept Publishing Company, 1982, Rs 100

The present study deals essentially with the inherent centripetal and centrifugal forces operating within the geographical environment of land-locked Afghanistan. It keeps in view the strategic implications of its location, while it attempts at identifying geographical and historical conditions that have influenced and interacted with the evolution of the state. The study also takes congnisance of the primary character of the state tribalism. It further analyses how far this element has influenced the development of the state, politically and economically.

Apart from a study of material at the National Archives at New Delhi and at the various libraries, the author was also to visit Kabul on a field trip and incorporate valuable data which adds to the authenticity of his work. A welcome addition to the meagre literature available in this important area of political geography.

BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE, MINUTES AND REPORTS (12th (Edition) by J.C. Bahl & S.M. Nagamia, N.M. Tripathi Private Limited, 1983, Rs 35

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conducted by chambers of commerce, the authors have taken note of syllabi prescribed by different institutions, and brought to bear their long experience as teachers and examiners.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION: Principles and Techniques (5th edition) by Mrityunjoy Banerjee, Asia Publishing House, Rs 50

This fifth, revised edition of the book gives a systematic exposition of the principles followed and the techniques applied in the administration of business enterprises. The overall task of administration has been split up into six important functions—planning, organising, direction, motivation, coordination and control. Each function has then been analysed from the point of view of those principles and techniques. Since these have been evolved through experience and research, the book recalls and reviews the contributions of some of the pioneers like Federick W. Taylor, Henri Fayol and Mary P. Follett. It also deals with topics of more recent origin like sales forecasting and operations research, theories of organisation and of motivation and the social responsibilities of business. Besides analysing business administration of a general nature, the book aims at acquainting the reader with the specialised functions of industrial administration, personnel management and sales management, and the various activities involved in them.

THE HONEY BEE: Towards New Culture in Industrial Relations by G. Ramanujam, Sterling Publishers (P) Ltd., 1983, Rs 45

Conflict-based industrial relations must soon be consigned to the past. The future industrial relations must be based on "community of interests". The culture of "conflicts of interests" leads to strife and all-round prosperity. This book seeks to bring this new culture in industrial relations into action.

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G. Ramanujam is the National General Secretary of India's premier trade union centre, the INTUC.

VALMIKI'S RAMAYANA (Retold for Young Readers) by Krishna Datta Bharadwaj, Pitambar Publishing Company, 1983, Rs 50

This is a summary, in simple English, of all important events written in the Ramayana by Valmiki in a big volume of 24 thousand years in Sanskrit.

It has been prepared after reading the original text, without consulting any other work of this nature.

Names of persons and places with their explanatory notes have been appended to the book.

A few multi-coloured pictures at suitable places have made the work more attractive.

We hope this story of Ramayana will be widely read and appreciated by all lovers of the Indian classic, especially the children.

COMMENTARIES ON PAYMENT OF BONUS ACT, 1965 (Act No. 21 of 1965) by P.N. Ghosh, Delhi Law House, 1982, Rs 90

The book embodied research of the author of great repute of his vast study of the subject spread over a long period. It was not a mere digest of case-law of hybrid collection of conflicting views but presents a systematic readable commentary which explains the legal principles underlying the subject.

In presenting this edition all possible care has been taken to incorporate all the amendments at their proper places with Explanatory Notes, wherever necessary. Legislative History has been traced to help in linking the case-law. All the latest judgements of importance have been carefully classified, discussed and analysed. No stone has been left unturned to make the book exhaustive and enriched with up-to-date decisions of the various High Courts and the Supreme Court. It is bound to prove of immense utility not simply as a guide but more so as a book of day-to-day reference, not only to the Members of the Bar, the Bench, Labour and Income-tax Department, to Companies, Factories, Industries but to all establishments concerned with this branch of Law and their workers at large.

EMPLOYMENT EFFECTS OF MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, International Labour Office, Geneva, 1981, 17.50 Swiss Francs

This report presents a synthesis of the findings of a research project concerning the employment effects of multinational enterprises (MNEs) in developing countries which was carried out under the ILO's Multinational Enterprises Programme. It is complemented by a similar report entitled Employment effects of multinational enterprises in industrialised countries (see inside back cover).

The present report analyses foreign investment and the direct employment (volume, trends, distribution and structure) of MNEs in the developing countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America using, among other things, data from an ILO special survey of main MNEs. It also discusses the indirect employment effects of MNEs in these countries. A chapter is devoted to employment provided by multinationals in Free Trade Zones. Finally, the report highlights

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government policies and technology choice by MNEs as important inter-related determinants for the enterprises' employment effects.

INDIAN SOCIETY, RELIGION & MYTHOLOGY by A.J. Rawal, D.K. Publications, 1982, Rs 150

In the present book an attempt has been made by Dr Rawal to study the *Brahmavaivartapurana* which, unfortunately, no scholar has studied thoroughly. The long-felt desideratum of an exhaustive critical and cultural study of the *Brahmavaivartapurana* which it so richly deserves has now been realized by the author in this book. The study has yielded valuable materials for the understanding of Krishna cult, an important branch of Vaishnavism, of Shaktism and Tantrism, all of which flowered in mediaeval India and shaped the culture of the period. The author gives an exhaustive account, particularly in Bengal, of the influence of *Brahmavaivartapurana* on religious cults in mediaeval India. Its influence on religion apart, the study of *Brahmavaivartapurana* is also important if we want to understand mediaeval Indian society—marriage, family, position of women as well as customs, conventions, beliefs and superstitions of the people. The section of mythology in Dr Rawal's book gives a comprehensive picture of the religious practice in mediaeval India, and also a descriptive analysis of major and minor deities—both male and female—which were worshipped by people. In the appendices, of which there are five in the book, there is valuable information on the study of the text, that is *Brahmavaivartapurana*.

A scholarly work of great value, Dr Rawal's book is a rich contribution to the study of mediaeval India.

ESSAYS ON INDOLOGY by H.S. Ursèkar, Parimal Prakashan, 1981, Rs 70

This book is a product of leisure harnessed to the pursuit of knowledge. These Essays on Indology is mostly a collection of authors research papers presented before various sessions of the All India Oriental Conference held every alternate year in different cities of India.

The papers are classified under different heads like Vedicism, Sanskrit Civilisation and Language, Classical Sanskrit, Technical Sciences and Fine Arts, Religion and Philosophy and Law. These categories except Law are the same as some of the heads of subjects adopted by the All India Oriental Conference in conducting its deliberations. Some of the articles have been appreciated by eminent scholars whose opinions are reproduced elsewhere in the book. The book will be useful for scholars, professors and students of Indology as well as the common readers would find food for thought here.

THE BUSINESS TRAVELLER'S HANDBOOK (How to Get Along with People in 100 Countries), Compiled by Foseesco Minsep, Graham and Trotman Ltd., 1982, 320pp. £ 4.45

The material in this handbook has been contributed by members of the Fosesco Minsep Group and its agents and friends resident in the countries covered. Information about each country is clearly and concisely given under such headings as—introductions, correct forms of address, punctuality, conversation, customers, visiting cards, language, clothing, entertainment, tipping, gifts, religion, smoking, travel within the country, health and miscellaneous topics. It covers every aspect of consequence to a business traveller and should prove a valuable possession for information.

THE REBEL BUREAUCRAT: Frederick John Shore (1799-1837) as Critic of William Bentick's India, Edited by Peter Penner and Richard Dale Maclean, 1983, Rs 120

Among the few rebels Indian Civil Service is known to have thrown up, perhaps the earliest was Frederick John Shore (1799-1837). He stood alone when, to quote Philip Woodruff, "he assailed the whole system" of British rule as it existed in India up to 1833.

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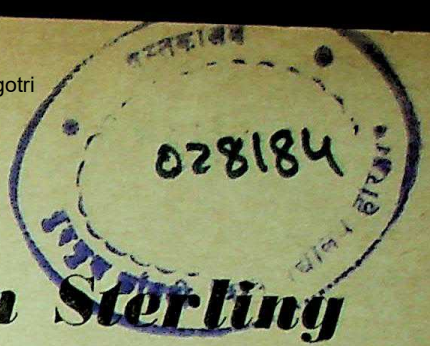

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